

Prez Murmu confers gallantry awards to 36 bravehearts



JI NEWS SERVICE SRINAGAR, JUL 5

The President of India has Chakras, recognising the and dedication to duty. humous Kirti Chakras and operations across the seven posthumous Shau- country. rya Chakras, highlight who have gone above and a well-known beyond the call of duty.

As per details obtained by the news agency,

among the distinguished awardees are five officers conferred 36 Gallantry from the Jammu and Kashawards, including 10 Kirti mir Police, honoured for Chakras and 26 Shaurya their exceptional valour outstanding bravery and The gallantry awards are sacrifice of individuals in a testament to the extraorservice. These awards, dinary valour displayed which include seven post- by individuals in various

Shaurya Chakra (Postthe unwavering commit- humous): Selection Grade ment and courage of those Constable Saifullah Qadri, CONTINUED ON → PAGE 4

Under Modi's leadership, J&K witnessing historic, transformative changes: LG

JI NEWS SERVICE SRINAGAR, JUL 5

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Friday met H.E Dr. Eliska Zigova, Ambassador of Czech Republic to India, at Raj Bhawan Srinagar.

The Lt Governor discussed with the Czech Republic Ambassador the investment potential of Jammu Kashmir in diverse sectors like Industries, Tourism, Start-ups, Handloom, Handicrafts, Food Processing, Agriculture &

allied sectors.

historic and transforma- the leadership of Hon'ble



tive changes the UT of Prime Minister Shri Nar-He also spoke on the J&K is witnessing under endra Modi.

"Jammu Kashmir is on

the verge of becoming a notable success story among Indian states and a global model for socioeconomic development," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor invited Trade and Business Leaders from Czech Republic to explore the limitless opportunities that Jammu Kashmir has to offer.

He said the progressive reforms and futuristic policy interventions have positioned Jammu Kashmir as the preferred destination for the investors

across the globe. "Jammu Kashmir is

CONTINUED ON >> PAGE 4

CS lays out steps to create enabling ecosystem for promotion of skill development in J&K



JI NEWS SERVICE SRINAGAR, JULY 5

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today held a meet- ing the ways and means ing with Vice Chancellor of nurturing skill environ-Shri Vishwakarma Skill ment in Jammu and Kash-University (SVSU), Hary- mir. Present ana, Dr Raj Nehru, spe-

cially invited to share his knowledge and expertise regarding establishment of SVSU besides discuss-

CONTINUED ON >> PAGE 4

President JDU J&K calls on LG Sinha

JI NEWS SERVICE SRINAGAR, JUL 5

GM Shaheen, President, J&K Janta Dal United (JDU), called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan, on Friday. Shaheen discussed with the Lt Governor var-

ious issues pertaining to Muharram arrangements,



road connectivity in Kashmir valley and smooth movement of fruit laden vehicles.

The Lt Governor assured the senior political leader of appropriate action on all genuine issues put forth by him during the interaction. KNO CONTINUED ON → PAGE 4

transit accommodations in Kashmir JI NEWS SERVICE SRINAGAR, JUL 5

CS takes stock of physical status of

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo Friday chaired a meeting to take stock of physical status of transit accommodations being constructed for PM package employees from migrant Kashmiri Pandit com-munity across different districts of valley. CONTINUED ON → PAGE 4

Assembly elections in Sept, Retrieving PoK to be part of manifesto: BJP leaders told in Jammu meet

JI NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, JUL 5

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Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders from J&K were given a green signal on Assembly polls post Amarnath Yatra on Friday in a high level meeting chaired by the Union Minister and J&K elec-



ACB registers case against JE, Jal Shakti dept, **Poonch division**

JI NEWS SERVICE SRINAGAR, JUL 5

Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Friday said to have registered a case against Junior Engineer, Jal Shakti Department, Division Poonch on corruption charges.

As per a statement issued to the news

Amarnath Yatra crosses 1.30 lakh mark in 6 days, fresh batch of around 7000 pilgrims leaves from Jammu

JI NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, JUL 5

nag district till yesterday evening, this year's yatra crossed 1.30 lakh mark



tion incharge G Kishen Reddy in Jammu. The party also evolved CONTINUED ON >> PAGE 4

J&K BJP unit likely to get new president, MP Jugal front runner

JI NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, JULY 5

Ahead of the assembly elections, the Jammu and Kashmir unit of the Bhartiya Janata Party will be seeing a major reshuffle in the cadre including the party presi-

dent. "The preparations for the assembly elections, which are yet to be officially announced,



are in full swing for which the party level deliberations are being held with the high command," party sources said.

They said that a reshuffle in the BJP organisation is also on cards including an appointment of new J&K head.

"Discussions at the top level are in progress with the J&K cadre and various names for

CONTINUED ON >> PAGE 4

agency, J&K Anti Corruption Bureau registered a case against Dil Pazeer, Junior Engineer posted in Jal Shakti Department, Division Poonch under FIR number 04/2024 PS ACB Rajouri U/s 13(1)(b) r/w section 13(2) Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (as amended in 2018).

"The instant case was registered on the outcome of a verification conducted by ACB into the allegations of accumulation of assets disproportionate to known source of income by above named accused person," the statement reads. The verification con-

ducted has revealed **CONTINUED ON → PAGE 4**

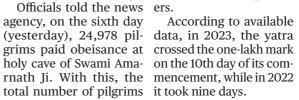
in just six days, breaking all previous records of scared pilgrimage. While a fresh batch of 6919 pil- the previous records. grims left Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas base camp in Jammu towards twin base camps of Baltal in Central Kashmir's Ganderbal district and Nunwan -Pahalunder tight security measures early this morning.

Over 24,000 pilgrims

paid obeisance at natu-

rally formed Ice Shivlingam at Himalayan cave in

South Kashmir's Anant-



visiting the 3888-metrethe last four days since the Yatri Niwas base camp in 1,30,260, surpassing all Valley to perform the pil-



grimage to the Amarnath Cave Shrine.

Officials said among the 24,978 pilgrims who performed darshan today at Bhole', the pilgrims left holy cave included 16,667 male, 5367 female, 354 children, 520 Sadhus, two morning. These include gam in Anantnag district Sadhvis and seven others 5241 Men, 1435 Women, besides 2061security per- 16 Children, 214 Sadhus sonnel and service provid-

data, in 2023, the yatra

Meanwhile, the eighth high cave shrine in the batch of 6919 pilgrims rity arrangements for the deep Himalayas during left the Bhagwati Nagar smooth conduct of the yatra started has reached Jammu for the Kashmir thousands of security

Chanting 'Bam Bam the base camp in a cavalcade of 259 early Friday & 13 Sadhvies (female sadhus). Of these, 2542 left According to available for Baltal whereas 4377 departed for Pahalgam base camp from where they will proceed for their

> further journey to the holy cave. The administration has placed stringent secuvatra. Officials said that

CONTINUED ON → PAGE 4

J&K breathes sigh of relief from heat Special summary revision wave as temp records slight dip

JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUL 5

After recording back-toback hottest July days, Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir and other parts breathed a sigh of relief on Friday as the mercury plummeted slightly, ending the four day-long heat wave in the Valley.

According to the details available in the news agency, Srinagar yesterday. has recorded a maxi-1.5 degree Celsius less than 32.0 degree Celsius while



Pahalgam, a famous des-Qazigund, a gateway of tination, recorded 26.3 mum temperature of 34.2 Kashmir, has recorded a degree Celsius. The merdegree Celsius, which was maximum temperature of cury in Kupwara CONTINUED ON >> PAGE 4

of electoral rolls in J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE SRINAGAR, JUL 5

of India (ECI) will review officer to DEOs, a copy of preparedness for special summary revision of electoral rolls with the district would discuss vacancies election officers (DEOs) of of electoral registration Jammu & Kashmir on July 10.

Ahead of the beginning of the special summary revision of electoral rolls, of house-to-house verifithe poll-body has convened a meeting with all 20 district election offi- polling stations, health of cers of the Union Territory to discuss the issues relating to the exercise, which

will begin on July 25 and culminate on August 20. As per the letter writ-

The Election Commission ten by joint chief electoral which is in possession of news agency, the meeting officers and assistant electoral registration officers, status of appointment of booth level officers, status cation by BLOs, rational-

ization/rearrangement of electoral roll, removal of discrepancies in

CONTINUED ON → PAGE 4

Unusual, abnormal temperatures, peaks, lows part of climate change: Experts

JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUL 5

As Srinagar and rest parts sity, told the news agency, or weakening with time. of Jammu and Kashmir said that the rising temwitnessed record-breaking maximum tempera-

temperatures and precipitation is the outcome of the climate change. the climate change. However, the experts are of shift in the Monsoon es link it directly with the the belief that the shifting winds and absence of climate change and some of Monsoon winds as well Western Disturbances, he people link it ocean oscilas the absence of Western stated that the research lations Nonetheless, Dr Disturbances has shown is still going on whether Sami-ullah Bhat, Senior

Professor Ghulam ern Disturbances are

Jeelani, Dean, School of affected by the climate Earth & Environmental change, whether they are Sciences, Kashmir Univer- strengthening with time

"It is still debatable, but peratures, unusual pre- there are people who are cipitation is not the doing different research tures this July, the experts Kashmir phenomenal; on different aspects of here have claimed that these things are being wit- it, but they show some the unusual, abnormal nessed across the globe abnormal behaviour over and is clearly linked with the years," he added.

Prof Jeelani further However, about the added that some researchthe abnormal behaviour. the Monsoon and West- Assistant Professor CONTINUED ON >> PAGE 4

heartedly.

NEWS

Principal Secretary PDD chairs Public Darbar at Mandal Jammu

JI NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, JULY 5

Principal Secretary, Power Development department (PDD) H Rajesh Prasad today chaired a Public Darbar at Block Mandal here to address various issues and grievances of the general public.

Deputy Commissioner Sachin Kumar Vaishya; Additional District Development Commissioner, Officer, ACD, Block Develsenior officers were also reforms are crucial and present on the occasion. must be welcomed whole- locals, the Principal Secre-The darbar also saw participation from BDC Chairnent citizens, and large number of locals.

ing on the occasion, the mining related concerns well. Principal Secretary urged pertaining to river Tawi, that in order to achieve



Sher Singh; Chief Planning power supply for pros- tion of Smart Buses and perity of Jammu & Kash- expressed hope for more opment Officer and other mir, the ongoing power such buses in the future. While interacting with

tary assured them that all During the darbar, the of their genuine demands man, Madan Lal, former locals raised several issues and grievances would be PRI representatives, emi- before the Principal Sec- addressed promptly. He retary like enhancement noted that some issues of interior village roads, would be taken up with that 22 lakh consumers Addressing the gather- flood mitigation measures, the UT administration as During the interaction,

upon all to welcome issues related to Rural the Principal Secretary rate billing and payment the installation of smart Development, Revenue made out that signifimeters. He underlined departments and others. cant reforms have been initiated in power sector The public also apprerobust and uninterrupted ciated the introduc- from last several years,

adding that Rs.10,000 crores have been invested to enhance the power infrastructure, including setting up grid stations, receiving stations, transformers, and power line networks besides a n additional amount of Rs 10,500 crores have been allocated for replacing poles and wires with superior insulated power cables.

The Principal Secretary further highlighted that despite challenges, the UT government continues to provide power to consumers at subsidised rates. He emphasised on the need to reduce power losses in Jammu and Kashmir, which are primarily due to non-payment of dues and pilferage. He informed are slated to receive smart meters, with 6 lakh already installed, to ensure accuof dues. He also dispelled concerns about overcharging or arbitrary charges by smart meters.

DLSA Kupwara holds one-day Workshop on BNS, BBBP at HSS Khumriyal



JI NEWS SERVICE KUPWARA, JULY 5

The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Kupwara in collaboration with Mission Shakti (Sankalp-Hub) Kupwara today organized a One Day Workshop on Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) at Sanhita (BNS). Higher Secondary School,

Khumriyal Kupwara. The programme was

under the immediate guidance of Manzoor Ahmad Khan, Secretary, DLSA/ Sub-Judge, Kupwara.

aimed at creating awareness among the participants regarding key features and changes incorporated in Bhartiya Nyaya

Resource Person, Taw- ing various women centric Kupwara, students of the seef Raja (Assistant Legal social welfare schemes said institution and Para Aid Defence Counsel (SMAS, BBBP). She also legal Volunteers of DLSA organised under the Kupwara) deliberated on sensitized the female Kupwara. supervision of Shazia key features and changes students of the institu-Tabasum, Chairperson, incorporated in Bhar- tion regarding menstrual DLSA (Pr. District & Ses- tiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), health and hygiene and

sion Judge) Kupwara, and offences against Women demonstrated the workand Children under BNS. ing of Sanitary Napkin He also highlighted the Vending Machine in preskey provision of vari- ence of female staff and ous Child Legislations students of the institu-The programme was like Child Labour Laws, tion. The programme PCPNDT Act and Prohibi- was attended by Princition of Child Marriage Act. pal, Higher Secondary cialist SANKALP-Hub Members of the school Kupwara, highlighted and and officials from Mission

Shagufta, Gender Spe- School, Khumriyal, Staff spread awareness regard- Shakti (SANKALP Hub)

Shivkhori Shrine Board gears up to host month long Shravan Mahotsav

JI NEWS SERVICE REASI, JULY 5

Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan, who is also the Vice Chairman of Shivkhori Shrine Board (SSKSB), on Friday chaired a meeting to discuss the arrangements for Departments and representatives of hospitality sector.

July to 19 August, attracts Shivkhori.

The meeting focused on reach and participation in (SHGs) will be provided making all necessary pre- the festival. prations for the smooth conduct of the festival.



the Shivkhori Shravan activities, including Shiv The provision of medi- departments and stake-Mahotsav 2024 with func- kathas, besides devotional cal camps and emergen- holders to ensure the festionaries of Government songs dedicated to Lord cy response teams was tival's success. Shiva by renowned sing- emphasized to handle ers and local artists. any health-related issues

Mahajan asked JD Tour- that may arise during the The annual Mahotsav, ism Sunaina Sharma, who event. Additionally, strict scheduled to run from 22 joined the meeting virtual cleanliness and sanitation ly, to ensure wide publicity measures will be implethousands of devotees of the Shivkhori Shravan mented to maintain the from across the country Mahotsav, to attract maxi- sanctity of the shrine and to the sacred shrine of mum number of devotees its surroundings. and enhance the overall

The discussion included food stalls, offering a taste robust security arrange- of local cuisine to the visiture different spiritual safety of the visitors. dinated efforts among all

The meeting was attended by ADC Kulbushan Khajuria; Executive Officer SSKSB Pardeep Kumar; Xen JPDCL, PWD and Jal Shakti, BMO, BDO HQ, DSP HQ.

President Hotel Association Katra Rakesh Wazir; Local Self-Help Groups Vice President Hotel Association Varinder Kesar and space to put up traditional Chairman Hotel Association Sham Lal Kesar also attended the meeting. Deputy Commissioner ments, with adequate tors. Deputy Commission- Joint Director Tourism Mahajan highlighted that police deployment and er Mahajan emphasized Sunina Sharma and AD the Mahotsav would fea- surveillance to ensure the importance of coor- Tourism Katra joined virtually

JI NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, JULY 5

In a first of its kind initiative, ninety six (96) students of the Government briefed about the role and interns to gain insight with was conducted by Centre SPMR College of Commerce Jammu completed and Kashmir Entrepre-Friday.

The undergraduate stu- Orientation Programs and discussed the impor- opment Institute (JKEDI)

ate students have to com- interns wherein real time their internship successship program to complete their degree.

summer internship at JKEDI

The interns were These activities helped the functioning of various ver- respect to the various chal- for New Enterprise Creticals/sections of JKEDI. lenges faced by an entre- ation (CNEC), a program ties undertaken by JKEDI

their mandatory summer They were made aware preneur and the ways to vertical of JKEDI under the internship from Jammu about the various activi- overcome the same. neurship Development including Entrepreneur sion, Director JKEDI, Sharma, faculty at JKEDI. Institute (JKEDI) here on ship Awareness Programs Rajinder Kumar Sharma, Jammu and Kashmir

96 SPMR College students complete

At the valedictory ses-

plete 60 hours of intern- exposure of running a suc- fully and promised them cessful business venture all possible support and was provided to them. guidance in future.

(EAPs), Entrepreneurship interacted with the interns Entrepreneurship Devel-

The internship program

supervision of Dr. Vinod Sharma and Dr. Amit

Rs 85800 subsidy on solar rooftop of **Rs.1.59 lakh under PM Surya Ghar: KPDCL**

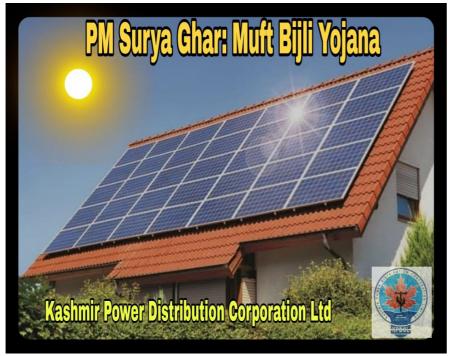
JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JULY 5

Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) today urged the domestic consumers to immediately apply and register for installation of Solar Rooftop Plants under the Centre's flagship PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana to reap benefits of free solar energy.

It further stated that around 40 empanelled Solar PV Vendors are being onboarded on the National PM Surya Ghar portal, paving way for rolling out the subsidized scheme in Kashmir Division.

In a statement released to the press here today, a KPDCL spokesperson rooftops shall be installed portal and with onboard- ciaries ing of empanelled venpmsuryaghar.gov.in.



stated that 36,400 solar no Technical Feasibility mark prices, it adds up to Yojana on its designated Report (TFR) is required Rs.33,000/- subsidy for under the scheme target for a solar plant up to 10 1 kWp, Rs.66,000/- for 2 till March 31, 2027. "A kWp. He, however, clari- kWp and Rs. 85,800/- for the consumers to click large number of interested fied that solar panels shall 3 kWp solar rooftop sys- on the hyperlink so that consumers have already be compulsorily installed tems or higher for special they are navigated to the registered on the national on rooftops of the benefi-

Calling upon the condors, installation of solar sumers to avail benefits of he said, while urging the the spokesman stated consumers to submit their that subsidy for residen- save on electricity bills. formal applications on the tial rooftop solar is 60% 2 kW & 40% of additional and popularize the solar

In order to facilitate system cost for systems rooftop scheme, KPDCL the beneficiaries, the between 2-3 kW capac- has created a hyperlink of spokesperson stated that ity. At current bench- PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli

website - www.kpdcl. category UT like Jammu & Kashmir.

The KPDCL spokesperson further said that rooftops shall begin soon," PM Surya Ghar Scheme, households availing the scheme, will be able to In order to facilitate the designated portal - www. of the system cost up to prospective beneficiaries

jkpdd.net. KDPCL urged national portal for registration and submission of formal applications. The spokesman fur-

ther added that Kashmir DISCOM is organising awareness camps and IEC campaigns in all Electric Divisions so that maximum publicity is given to the flagship scheme.

JKEDI. As per the New

hours) Summer Internship (EOPS and EDPs) to pro-stressed upon the interns self-employment in the which started on June 24 mote entrepreneurship to acquire vocational region through training, here at Bari-Brahmana as a career choice among training skills in order to research, and developcampus of the institute unemployed youth of J&K. be job oriented in today's ment activities. It aims to Education Policy (NEP) shop and business simu- ment. He congratulated tem for entrepreneurship 2020, all the undergradu- lations were held for the the interns on completing and innovation.

dents of the SPMR College and Entrepreneurship tance of entrepreneur- is dedicated to foster completed their 10 day (60 Development Programs ship and innovation. He entrepreneurship and An idea pitching work- competitive environ- create a conducive ecosys-

DG Rural Sanitation reviews sanitation arrangements at Baltal, Domail

JI NEWS SERVICE BALTAL, JULY 5

Director General Rural Sanitation, Anoo Malhotra, today reviewed the status of sanitation and allied services being extended to the pilgrims of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra at Baltal base camp and Domail. At Domail Waste Management Facility, the DG inspected the arrangements for proper disposal of dry, wet and inert waste.

Anoo Malhotra Malhotra appreciated the sanitation activities while recognizing the critical role of sanitation workers in ensuring a smooth and hygienic pilgrimage experience for thousands of devotees participating in the yatra. "We are proud of our sanitation workers who are professionat Baltal, the largest base visit every day since com- educate pilgrims on the able practices. mencement of the annual importance of maintain-Yatra," she maintained.

officers to launch special tal footprint. sanitation drives focused on keeping the yatra axis clean and eco-friendly

The DG instructed the mizing their environmen- ment to both the spiri-

Besides inspecting the aspects of the pilgrimyatra route, she visited the "Waste to Wonder" exhiwith regular collection bition at the Baltal base adopt these innovative and disposal of waste, camp, being thronged by practices. By integrating maintenance of clean 2,000 to 3,000 visitors tracks and rest areas daily. Showcasing innovabesides ensuring decon- tive ways to manage waste administration not only ally managing the waste taminated water sources. and convert it into useful promotes a cleaner pil-She stressed the need resources, the exhibition camp for pilgrims where for intensifying public aligns with the depart- awareness about the around 30, 000 people awareness campaigns to ments vision of sustain-

ing cleanliness and mini- administration's commit- egy, she maintained.

tual and environmental age. She encouraged the officers and the public to such an exhibition into the yatra experience, the

grimage but also spreads importance of sustainability by adopting Recycle, The DG highlighted the Reuse and Refuse strat-

NEWS

DC Srinagar conducts extensive tour of Lal Chowk areas; reviews pace of developmental works

JI NEWS SERVICE SRINAGAR JULY 5

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat Friday undertook a comprehensive tour of Lal Chowk and adjoining areas to review the pace of development works.

The visit began with a detailed interaction with the Traders Association of central Lal Chowk in order to address their developmental issues.

On the occasion, the traders projected several demands, including revival and maintenance of the consider relocating any old lower court building Government Department and the macadamization into the said building. of the area extending to the old Lower Court, sug-Smart City project.

DC Srinagar attentively listened to the traders'



from higher authorities, the Administration would

Regarding the macadof the surrounding area of would be carried out up to Regal Chowk soon and gesting it should be incor- that the area would be porated into the Srinagar developed to align with pate in the planning and the standards of Srinagar

Smart City. In addition to addressdemands and assured ing the traders' demands, them that he would bring DC emphasized the impor-

good condition and that any issues are promptly addressed. DC Srinagar also high-

lighted the significance of collaboration between Regal Chowk. They also amization, the DC con- the administration and demanded the upliftment firmed that the process the traders in achieving Lal Chowk's development goals. He encouraged the

traders to actively particiexecution of projects to ensure that their needs and concerns were adequately

addressed. During the tour, the up the matter of the heri- tance of maintaining clean- DC was accompanied by tage building of the old liness and order in Lal Additional Deputy Com-Lower court complex with Chowk. He mentioned that missioner Srinagar, Syed

Shailendra Kumar chairs Public Darbar in Budgam

JI NEWS SERVICE BUDGAM, JULY 5

Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production Department (APD), Shailendra Kumar today chaired a public darbar at Conference Hall, Budgam. At the outset, the Princi-

pal Secretary APD listened to the public issues and demands and assessed overall public service delivery in the district. Speaking on the occasion, Shailendra Kumar encouraged the District cessful implementation of Administration to ensure the Swachhata campaign prompt service delivery across all Towns and rural in the district. Principal Secretary APD asserted on timely completion of all ongoing developmental works and commissioning of completed projects for the public use.

Shailendra Kumar urged the public to ensure sised on creating massive their positive role in curb- awareness regarding goving drug abuse and act ernment schemes and as responsible citizens services. to help police and civil

JI NEWS SERVICE



administration in addressparticipation in interacing the issue effectively.

He also appealed Gendarbars is important to eral Public to provide make public part of govtheir cooperation for sucernment's developmental activities and ensure sucareas of the district, and welfare schemes at the grass root level. sensitized about the garbage dumping and proper

different areas of the disdisposal. Shailendra Kumar trict raised their issues appreciated public parand demands with the ticipation in such prochair. grammes and empha-

Principal Secretary Culture inaugurates

Border Block Library Sogam

and early action. Speaking on the occa-

sion, Deputy Commissioner, Budgam, Akshay Labroo said that all the directions and suggestions have been duly recorded and will be adhered to in letter and spirit.

DC said that action taken report shall also be submitted and district tion programs or public administration shall continue prompt service delivery with same tempo.

It Is apt to mention that the Government of Jammu cessful implementation and Kashmir has deployed of flagship initiatives and the Administrative Secretaries to conduct Public Darbars in the assigned Public delegations from Districts to hear and redress the grievances of the General Public. SSP Budgam, Direc-

tor Agriculture Kashmir, While taking cogni- Director Horticulture zance of genuine demands Kashmir, Director Sericulraised by the general ture, ADC and all other public, Principal Secretary district and Sectorial offi-APD, said that all these will cers were also present on He said that public be taken up with the con- the occasion.

competitive examina-

tions," he said and added

there is still a lot of scope

for further improvement

in this vital social sector

Srinagar Conclave on Urban Planning concludes on high cerned quarters for timely note; yields key recommendations

JI NEWS SERVICE SRINAGAR, JULY 5

The two day Srinagar Conclave on urban planning, organized by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) at Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Center (SKICC), concluded successfully here today.

The high level Committee, headed by Chairman Keshav Varma, focused on advancing urban planning reforms across India.

On second day of the Conclave, extensive discussions and deliberations were held among the representatives from various states, urban planners and other stakeholders. These sessions yielded many recommendations for the Committee's final report, focusing on future urbanization strategies that integrate cultural heritage preservation and state-specific development models. Keshav Varma led the sessions, emphasizing the need for future urbanization strategies that integrate asset management systems, including cultural and heritage assets of smaller cities. He also stressed the importance of identifying strengths, adopting statespecific models and focusing on natural conservation while tailoring development regulations for different zones. He added that the outcomes of Srinagar Conclave are expected to play a crucial role in shaping sustainable and resilient urban development strategies for the future.

Commissioner Secretary Housing & Urban Development Department, Mandeep Kaur, addressed the concluding session, expressing optimism that the discussions and recommendations from the Conclave will significantly incorporate the final report. She also highlighted the potential for cooperative efforts to address urban issues effectively.

SOGAM (KUPWARA), JULY 5 the Higher as authorities. regular inspections would Ahmad Kataria and other He also assured that be conducted to ensure senior Officers of District J&K's Libraries Department has embarked on once approval is obtained that the area remains in Administration Srinagar. a comprehensive action

DC reviews performance of RDD Sector in Ramban; Calls for Timeline Completion of Works

JI NEWS SERVICE RAMBAN, JULY 5

Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary on Friday reviewed the working of Rural Development Department (RDD) while stressing the importance of completing works within set timelines.

progress achieved under as 12591 works have been needs of the community. different RDD schemes, proposed under the including the status of scheme for the Financial utilization of resources works under MGNREGA, Year 2024-25. CAPEX budget, construc-

REGA workers in the dis- with far-flung areas to trict out of which 57984 have first hand appraisal The DC reviewed the are active, while as many of the developmental

It was further informed DC directed the departtion of PMAY-G houses, that 35602 houses have ment to accelerate the implementation of Aspi- been sanctioned under pace of sanctioning, rational Panchayat and PMAY-G of which more approval and completion



cipal Secretary Department of Culture, Suresh addressing a gathering after inaugurating the Libraries. refurbished Border Block Library in Sogam area of

district Kupwara last evening. Emphasizing the best and working season, the missioner Handwara, Aziz interventions. "It is heart- and added that to begin Ahmad; Additional Deputy ening to note that the with quality reference



Administrations for working in tandem to ensure Kumar Gupta, while best possible infrastructure facilities in Public

Suresh Gupta hailed the sustained efforts made by the Department of Libraries & Research during the Member DDC Kupwara, past 3 years towards repo-Nasir Nazir Lone; Direc- sitioning and reinventing tor, Libraries & Research, the public libraries in J&K J&K, Mohammad Rafi; through various innova- needs with the focus Additional Deputy Com- tive and technological on e-resources," he said

ment of Libraries & & Research, Mohammad Research and the District Rafi enumerated various measures taken by the Department during the the role of public libraries

> tion Services to the youth. public libraries especially addressed the gathering. pertaining to youth

especially on the infrastructure front as most of the libraries in J&K are lacking in basic facilities like furniture & furnishing, drinking water, separate toilets for ladies and the requisite IT infrastructure. The Director Libraries & Research expressed gratitude to Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan for taking personal past 3 years to reinvent interest in the development of library infrastrucin J&K by offering Career ture in District Kupwara. Guidance and Informa- Member DDC Kupwara, Nasir Nazir Lone and Addi-"We have embarked on a tional Deputy Commisprogram to build the req- sioner Kupwara, Mohamuisite infrastructure in the mad Rouf Rehman also

NORTHERN RAILWAY

atients of Sub-Divisional Hospital Amritsar.

Expression of Interest Chief Medical Supdt. Northern Railway, Firozpur for an on behalf of President of India, invites expression of interest on the prescribed form for the following work:-

diagnostic centres for empanelling name for providing diagnostic services fo

ession of interest from

in remote areas, have access to quality sources of knowledge not hither-to open to them. This was stated by Prin-

plan to extend and broaden the reach of gainful Public Library facilities across the UT so that the readers, especially

Block Development Plans, than 20000 have been of work within the stipureviewed thoroughly.

completed works. The in the current financial

besides Geo Tagging of completed, including 625 lated time frame.

The meeting was attendexecution of IWMP devel- year (2024-2025). Similar- ed by ADDC Roshan Lal, opment works, imple- ly, out of 2693 approved SDM Gool Pawan Kumar mentation of NLM and the works 2604 works have Goswami, SDM Bani-Aspirational Block Devel- been taken up on ground hal Rizwan Asgar, ACD opment Program was also under the district Capex Ramban Srinath Suman, ACP Ramban Ashfaq

The meeting was The DC asked BDOs to Khanji, CPO Shakeeb informed that there are stay in the panchayats Ahmed Rather, BDOs, and 100374 registered MGN- from tomorrow, starting other concerned officials.

Transport Commissioner reviews status of services delivery mechanism at RTO Office Jammu

budget.

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU JULY 5

Transport Commissioner J&K S. Rajinder Singh Tara today visited the Regional Transport Officer Jammu to review the service delivery by different sections. During the visit, the Transport Commissioner inspected Driving license section, Transport Commissioner different boards.

tion



all sections including the for various services, the ent manner.

He further instructed vehicle registration sec- asked ARTOs to strictly RTO Jammu to conduct tion, Transfer of Owner- adhere to the PSGA guide- periodic review of the sership section and Fitness lines to facilitate people vices delivery mechanism Board related services. with time bound services so that all applications He also saw randomly as prescribed in the Act. are timely approved and selected footage of Driv- He also asked for priori- the applicants avail the ing skill test and fitness tizing disposal of all long services in a hassle free of vehicles conducted by pending cases related to and comfortable manner. fitness of Vehicles as the He further directed all Regional Transport same plays a significant concerned ARTOs to Officer Pankaj Bhagotra role in ensuring road ensure that applicants be provided comprehen- safety. He asked the con- informed immediately sive details regarding the cerned officers to ensure through a system generfunctioning of each sec- that all applications ated SMS about the defiregarding different ser- ciency in documents, if

Taking serious note vices are disposed of in a any, without unnecessary of pending applications time bound and transpar- delay.

Commissioner Kupwara, Libraries Department has material and prestigious Mohammad Rouf Rehman; of late introduced some journals/magazines have SDM Lolab, Javed Naseem pioneering measures to bee Masoodi and other officers of the District Administra- the libraries in the UT and tion and Libraries Depart- make them lively literary iou ment were present on the places for people from nat occasion.

to upgrade Public Library for extensive technologi-Department of Libraries ies including automation, has kick-started construc- e-cataloguing and e-circution, expansion and reno- lation to make them more vation of library buildings user-friendly. in various parts of the UT including border areas commended the efforts of of m areas at their doorstep,"

Suresh Gupta said. Principal Secretary complimented the Depart- sion, Director, Libraries available for various

give a refreshing look to pul different sections of the has "As a part of the plan society," he said and called ad ma facilities across J&K, the cal interventions in librar- ties ies res

libra

Principal Secretary to make quality learn- the Department of Librar- remain jam-packed for ing resources available to ies & Research in rejuve- the whole day as a large people in these remote nating the institution of number of students reg-Public Libraries despite ularly visit these libraries lot of resource constraints. to take advantage of the Speaking on the occa- free learning resources

Udhampur Forest Division conducts plantation drive at Air Force Station

JI NEWS SERVICE UDHAMPUR, JULY 5

To enhance the green cover and counter the climate change in the district, the Forest Division Udhampur conducted a plantation drive in collaboration with the Air Force Station. Deputy Commissioner Saloni Rai, Divisional Forest Officer Navneet Singh, Group Captain and Air Force plants. Highlighting the to weather patterns and Station Commander L.S. Laran, along with other the Deputy Commissionofficers and officials from er urged participants to balance. Therefore, the both the Forest Depart- plant more trees to main- task of environmental ment and the Air Force, tain the balance in nature. protection is a universal participated in the drive. She noted that trees and responsibility for all of



importance of forests, play a crucial role in They planted a variety of forests are closely linked us, she emphasized.

maintaining the natural

been provided in various	2 Completion period : Two years from the Date of starting.
public libraries to help	3 App. Cost of the work : N.A.
	4 Earnest money : N.A.
students prepare for var-	5 Cost of application form on cash/By post : N.A.
ious competitive exami-	6 Date and time availability & Place of procuring app
nations. This, he said,	working day from office of Chief Medical Supdt., N.Rly. Fire
, , ,	from the office of Chief Medical Supdt., N.Rly. Firozpur in
has proved to be a value-	31.07.2024 up to 11.00 Hrs.
addition to the already	7 Place of submission of bids : Chief Medical Supdt., N.R. Firozpur.
mandated responsibili-	8 Date and time of submission of application form :
ties of the public librar-	31.07.2024. Opening of bids at 11.30 Hrs. on 31.07.2024.
1	Allocation: 110-241-26
ies as this initiative has	No.: 15-Med/Lab Investigation Date: 05.07.2024
resulted in huge increase	SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SI
in the footfall in public	

ilted in huge increase	
he footfall in public	
aries.	Azadi _{Ka}
Today Reading Halls	Azadi _{Ka} Amrit Maho
nost of our libraries	For an

ate and time availability & Place of procuring applicati- vorking day from office of Chief Medical Supdt., N.Rly. Firozpur om the office of Chief Medical Supdt., N.Rly. Firozpur in fron 1.07.2024 up to 11.00 Hrs.	and can be had
Hace of submission of bids : Chief Medical Supdt., N.Rly. Divi irozpur.	isional Hospital,
ate and time of submission of application form : Up to 1.07.2024. Opening of bids at 11.30 Hrs. on 31.07.2024.	11.00 Hrs. on
cation: 110-241-26 15-Med/Lab Investigation Date: 05.07.2024	2038/2024
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE	
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE	
NORTHERN RAILWAY	anical Engineer, Tender through

Name of Work : Design, manufacture, supply, installation and comm ralized heating system (CHS) on turnkey basis in light repair bay at DEMU Ca Shed, Budgam, (J&K).

Estimated Cost of Work (Approximate) : Rs. 4,63,36,596.92 (Rs. Four Crore, Sixty three lakh, thirty-six thousand, Five hundred ninety-Six and ninety-two paise only.)

Fender Security Amount (Earnest Money Deposit): Rs. 3,81,700/- (Rupees hree lakh, eighty one thousand, seven hundred only.)		
Fender document available for sale on website : 04.07.2024		
E-Tender closing Date & Time: 26.07.2024 at 15:00 Hrs.		
Date and time of opening of E-Tender on IREPS website : 26.07.2024 at 15:15 Hrs.		

Contract Period : 06 Months Type of Tender : Open Tender (Single Packet System) /alidity of Tender : 45 Days from the last date of submission of te Website : http://www.ireps.gov.in/ No.: 08-2024-DEMU BDGM Dated: 04.07 2024 2032/2024 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement system Dy. Chief Materials Manager, NRIy. Store Depot Mech. Workshop, AMRITSAR for a on behalf of President of India, invited tenders through e-procurement system for th supply of the following items:

S. No.	Tender No.	Description	Qty.	Due date
		MS Plate 08x1500x5500mm (IS:2062-11 E 410 C)	67450 Kgs.	
1.	62245220	MS Plate 10x1500x4000mm (IS:2062-11 E 410 C)	40650 Kgs.	29.07.2024
		MS Plate 12x2000x9000mm (IS:2062-11 E 410 C)	200200 Kgs.	

NOTE - Above tenders with detailed description are uploaded on IREPS site i.e www.ireps.gov.in. The firm, who desires to participate against e-ter to electronically register themselves on the above website for which they would require to have a class III digital certificate from certifying Agend authorized under IT Act 2000 by Govt. of India. Manual offers against etenders will not be accepted. Tender Notice No. 10/2024-2025 Date 05.07.2024 2039/2024



SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILI



NITI Aayog's Sampoornta Abhiyan launched in ABP Block Marwah

JI NEWS SERVICE KISHTWAR, JULY 5

yan, being observed from part of the Aspirational Block (AB) Marwah. Block Programme (ABP) under the aegis of the NITI Aayog, was launched here SDM Mohammad Ashraf, in far flung Marwah CD Consultant from NITI block on Thursday.

carried out under the tion, ICDS, Agriculture & overall supervision of Allied sectors, besides the Deputy Commissioner general public, and other Dr. Devansh Yadav, began stakeholders attended the on a high note. An impres- inaugural function.

and Local Administration under the close guidance of Nodal Officer, Sam-The Sampoornta Abhi- poornta Abhiyan (ACD) Phulail Singh here at GHSS July 4 to September 30 as Yourdu of Aspirational

Chief Planning Officer (CPO) Shahnawaz Bali, Aayog, block level officers The initiative being of RDD, Health, Educa-



Prez Murmu confers...

Shaurya Chakra for his bravery in numerous gun battles needs to ensure that students are equipped with comwith terrorists. His most notable act of valour occurred during the Bhishember Nagar operation in Srinagar, where he displayed exemplary courage. His dedication mobility options aligned to NSQF and NCrF framework. and sacrifice have left a lasting impact on his colleagues and the community.

Shaurya Chakra (Non-Posthumous): Sub-Inspector Amit Raina was recognized for his significant contributions to counter-terrorism operations in the region. During an operation in January 2022 in Srinagar, displaying utmost courage in the face of the enemy, he left his cover without caring for his life. He advanced towards the terrorist and in a face-to-face gunfight, neutralized the category 'A' terrorist.

Sub-Inspector Faroz Ahmad Dar was awarded for his courage and effectiveness in handling critical security situations. During an operation in Srinagar in January ensuring the safety and security of the civilians in the area

Constable Varun Singh was honoured for his commitment and bravery in crucial operations. Constable Singh played a key role in counter-terrorism efforts, often putting himself in harm's way to ensure the safety of others. He displayed tremendous grit and determination, an act of gallantry, and a never-say-die spirit under the most challenging circumstances, leading to the elimination of a category 'A' terrorist and the recovery of arms and ammunition from the possession of terrorists.

Superintendent of Police (SP) Mohan Lal was acknowledged for his leadership and gallantry. Superintendent Lal led numerous counter-terrorism initiatives. In June 2022, during an operation in Srinagar, showing exceptional bravery and indomitable will, he neutralised a terrorist. Sensing an imminent threat to his team, he left his cover and advanced bravely to neutralise another terrorist. KNO

Under Modi's...

set on a path of growth that will bring about momentous and historic changes. The government has taken decisive and bold measures to remove barriers obstructresilient and self-reliant Union Territory," the Lt Gov- during this period. ernor said.

It was added that the courses are outcome driven encounter specialist, was posthumously awarded the with focus on mapping all its programs as per industry petencies required for employment, self employment and career advancement with horizontal and vertical

CS takes stock...

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Home, Commissioner Secretary, FCS&CA, Secretary, R&B, Secretary, DMRR&R, Relief Commissioner, Chief Engineers and other concerned officers.

During this meeting, the Chief Secretary took note of flats completed so far by executing agencies and asked them about the timeline for completing those presently under progress

He enquired about the status of blocks raised at each to hold Assembly polls in J&K in September and to of 12 locations in different districts of the valley. He restore the Statehood as soon as possible. KNO 2022, he took the lead in eliminating a terrorist while asked about the physical progress made in each of the project taken in hand and the time by which these works are going to be finished in all respects.

The Chief Secretary emphasised on completing all these blocks as per the deadlines fixed without any fail. He also enjoined upon the Relief Commissioner to allot the furnished flats to the eligible candidates forthwith. He called for taking up other works too for ensuring their early completion.

In a detailed presentation, Secretary, DMRR&R, Anil Koul while giving overview of whole scheme, provided location wise progress registered in creation of additional accommodations for these package employees.

It was given out that out of the total 6000 flats to be made for the same number of employees, around 4800 had already been taken-up for completion at different locations.

It was further revealed that the construction of 2088 flats has been completed till date of which 998 have Lok Sabha elections, is considered to be the strongest been allotted to genuine applicants. It was also given out that work on 2712 flats is at advanced stage of completion and these are going to be handed over in next few months for allotment.

Giving further details, it was informed that since the onset of April this year, construction of 536 new flats had been taken in hand and 392 flats had also been ing development, propelling J&K towards becoming a completed, resulting in net addition of about 144 flats

The meeting also deliberated upon the issue of H.E Dr. Eliska Zigova, Ambassador of Czech Republic inclusion of Kashmiri Migrant families into the NFSA to India reiterated the commitment of Czech Republic database for extending the benefits of different social to deepen the partnership with India, with a dedicated security benefits to them. It also held discussions over command to revive the party in Jammu and Kashmir," package extend by MHA to the refugees including those belonging to years of 1947/1965/1971 as well as from West Pakistan KNO

Aayog.

Officers inspected Sam- sector initiatives, includpoornata stalls, erected ing the targets under by concerned depart- the nutritional deficienthe Aspirational Block diseases. Programme and the satu-

(KPIs) under Smpoornta organised during the pro-Abhiyan to bridge the gramme at the Venue. development gaps in the rural areas.

claim on government formation.

J&K BJP unit likely...

upcoming Assembly elections.

is the front runner for the post.

president since 2018.

and new responsibilities," they stated.

fight on all seats.

A mega marathon was uted among the Adult girl about the 3 month long also organized by the students of GHSS Yourdu programme, designed SDM also visited various sive inaugural event was The inaugural ceremo- istration of Sampoornta cials and participants by Health Department to and other schools in spirit to ensure intensive and schools in the AB Marwah organized by the District ny started with the admin- pledge to the officers, offi- the consultant from NITI inform the public about with the promotion of focused attainment of six to assess their condition.

fight." He said the plan is to bag at least 40 seats to stake

already started the preparations for holding Assem-

bly polls in J&K. On May 16, Union Minister Amit Shah

arrived in Srinagar and conveyed to BJP leaders that

gear up for Assembly polls and that the party would

Prime Minister Narendera Modi on the occasion of

international Yoga day at SKICC Srinagar had stated that

the day was not far when J&K people would choose their

own government and time wasn't far when J&K would

march towards success and progress as a 'State' again. The Supreme Court of India had directed the Centre

different posts are into the pipeline with additional

Notably, on July 4, Union Home Minister Amit Shah

capital have asked the party unit to gear up for the

MLAs, Member Parliaments and ex-J&K BJP heads are

included in the list," sources added and said but, the

third time Member Parliament, Jugal Kishore Sharma

president of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

contender for the presidential chair," sources added

and said that as he could not be accommodated in the

cabinet of the PM Modi government, will be the first

choice for the party to be appointed as new J&K BJP

Chief replacing Ravinder Raina, who is continuing as

BJP retained two seats in Jammu and Kashmir, but its

vote share significantly decreased," they said.

"In the recently concluded Lok Sabha elections, the

"Jugal Kishore Sharma, who scored a hat-trick in the

'The names of senior leaders comprising former

Pertinently, the Election Commission of India has

A free medical and

About 3000 Free Sani-

the campaign and aware personal hygiene among key performance indica-During the event, the masses about health girls under the KPI. Officers and resource culture, social develop-

persons of NITI Aayog ment, and nutrition in the and the stakeholder aspirational block within ments at the venue dis- cies among children and departments organised three months. seminating awareness women and early detec- performances to create among the masses about tion of life threatening awareness about the pro-

gramme. war and SDM Marwah Also the Anganwadi urged the concerned ration of the various key screening camp for hyper- workers ASHAs and SHG departments, PRI memperformance indicators tension and diabetes was members were sensi- bers, and the public to tized to the action plan to coordinate and cooperate achieve saturation of KPIs. for 100 percent saturation

The participants were of the six key performance tary pads were distrib- given a detailed outline indicators.

The CPO, ACD and

Amarnath Yatra crosses... wait for the message Nadda will convey to party ranks," he said. "One thing is clear that elections will be held in

personnel from the police, Central Reserve Police September-October and we have to be ready for a big Force, Indo-Tibetan Border Police, and other paramilitary forces have been deployed along the route, while the army is overseeing the overall security with the air force providing all-round aerial surveillance.

> Over 125 free langars have been established by philanthropic organizations at base camps and in the yatra area up to the holy cave to serve the pilgrims.

> The 52-day-long Amarnath Ji Yatra will conclude on August 19 this year on the auspicious occasion of Shravan Poornima, which also coincides with the festival of Raksha Bandhan. KNO

J&K breathes sigh...

settled at 32.8 degree Celsius while Kokernag and Gulmarg, a famous ski-resort, recorded a maximum temperature of 30.9 degree Celsius and 23.4 degree Celsius respectively.

In Jammu division, most of the stations have recorded above 30 degree Celsius. In Jammu, 34.3 degree Celsius day temperature was recorded today while Banihal and BJP National President and Union Health Minister, recorded a maximum temperature of 30.4 degree Cel-Jagat Prakash Nadda in a party meeting at the national sius.

Batote, Katra and Bhaderwah recorded a maximum temperature of 26.8 degree Celsius, 30.7 degree Celsius and 31.1 degree Celsius.

Meanwhile, the weatherman has predicted intermittent rainfall at most places of Jammu and Kashmir till tomorrow

There is a possibility of intermittent moderate rainfall Jugal from the year 2012 to 2015 remained the BJP at most places of J&K with heavy showers, rainfall at few places till tomorrow

> However on July 07, an intermittent spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower at many places, he said, adding that from July 08-July 10, hot and humid weather with possibility of brief spell of rain and thundershower is expected at scattered places of Jammu division towards late night and early morning and spell of rain and thundershower at few places of Kashmir.

> On July 11 & 12, he said a spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower is expected at scattered places. Moreover, the local Meteorological department in its

advisory has mentioned that flash floods, landslides, "Shouldering responsibilities on new faces in Assem- mudslides & shooting stones are possible at few vulnerbly Elections under the guidance of experienced leader- able places till tomorrow.



tors across health, agri-

At the inaugural event

ACD Kishtwar, CPO Kisht-

focus on nurturing mutual growth and collaboration.

Guneet Chaudhary, Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic in Chandigarh for UT of J&K; Adam Podhola, Third Secretary in the Embassy of Czech Republic; Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Yasha Mudgal, Commissioner Secretary, Tourism Department and Khalid Jahangir, Managing a consensus to include retrieval of Pakistan occupied Director, JKTPO were present during the meeting. KNO

CS lays out steps...

Director, SDD, Labour Commissioner, Secretary, Technical Board and other concerned officers while Jammu based officers participated virtually.

Chief Secretary laid stress on vigrous promotion of skill development in the UT by creating an enabling ecosystem. He elucidated the broad steps to be taken in anticipation of making the environment feasible for flourishing skill development in the region. In order to make any such academic or vocational pursuit successful it is imperative for the administration to first create genuine platform for it in the shape of necessary policies and regulations governing it, he added.

Atal Dulloo said that the same should be followed by establishment of model institutions imparting training or education in this trade or vocation. He added that it for other private players to make inroads and take this field to new heights.

Chief Secretary cited the examples of Medical, Engineering and Agricultural fields to buttress his reflections made during this meeting. He advocated framing of a similar strategy as that of above professions and called SVSU an earnest step in this direction.

Atal Dulloo encouraged the stakeholders including the Secretary, SDD to pay a visit to this Skill University to have a fair idea about the future course of action. He also beckoned the University authorities to handand points of action to promote holistic skilling of the vouth of J&K

VC, SVSU, Raj Nehru, presented a broad historical background of the University providing detailed insights into its working

It was informed that the University aims at nurturing skill development in candidates right from KG to PG level. Besides, the curriculum for each course had been designed and developed in consultation with the concerned Industrial set-up itself.

Assembly elections...

Kashmir (PoK) in its election manifesto while it also decided to demand Bharat Ratna for Mahraja Hari Singh for his decision of acceding to India in 1947.

Reddy, as per news agency chaired the meeting of in the meeting were Secretary, Skill Development BJP's office bearers at Trikuta Nagar, Jammu where BJP Department (SDD), MD, Skill Development Mission, national General Secretary and J&K affairs incharge Tarun Chug, MPs Dr Jitendera Singh, Jugal Kishore, J&K party chief Ravinder Raina, BJP's Co-inchage for J&K Ashish Sood, BJP leader and former Assembly speaker

Kavinder Gupta besides other leaders were present. Reddy, who was connected with Jammu and Kashmir, first as the Union Minister of State for Home and then Tourism Minister, was recently appointed as the Election Incharge for the UT. He is presently the Cabinet

Minister for Coals and Mines. A source, privy to the meeting, told KNO that Reddy informed the party leaders that Assembly polls in J&K

will be held in time (September-October). "The party leaders were clearly conveyed that Assembly polls will be held in J&K post Amarnath Yatra and they must gear up without any further delay. The party men were also is the outcome of these institutions that prepare ground told that BJP will contest on all seats and there will be no alliance with any party," the source revealed. The annual pilgrimage of Amarnath started on June 29 and

will culminate on August 19.

Today's meeting comes prior to the important session to be held in Kathua district tomorrow (July 6) that will be chaired by party's national president JP Nadda.

The source said that the agenda for tomorrow's meeting was framed that it was stressed that BJP leaders right from top to bottom in J&K must pull up their socks and launch a massive public outreach prior to elections. "It was also decided that retrieval of PoK will be made hold the J&K administration in making better plans part of the BJP's election manifesto," the source said. "It would be one of the poll planks of the party."

The party, as per the source, will also demand Bharat Ratna for Mahraja Hari Singh who acceded to the Union of India in 1947. "Bharat Ratna for the then Mahraja has to be on the grounds that he took a wise decision for Akhand Bharat," he said.

A party leader, who was part of the meeting, told KNO that the party will unanimously convey to the tion, the statement said, adding that further investiganational president in tomorrow's meeting that "we were ready to contest polls on all seats in J&K." "We will also

ship must be given due consideration by the party high they said.

As per the record, the BJP leaders who remained the J&K presidents are Thakur Baldev Singh (1980-1989), Prof. Chamanlal Gupta (1989-1994), Vaid Vishnudutt (1994-1996), Dayakrishna Kotwal (1996-2002), Dr. Nirmal Singh (2002-2006), Ashok Khajuria (2006-2010), Shamsher Singh Manhas (2010-2012), Jugal Kishore Sharma (2012-2015), Sat Sharma (2015-2018) and Ravindra Raina (from 2018 till date).

'This year (2024) is the organizational restructuring year and the election for the post of president was scheduled to be held in 2023 itself, but due to the Lok Sabha elections, the process was delayed. New organisational structure in J&K will soon be constituted and announced by the party high command," they added.

ACB registers case...

that the above named public servant has accumulated various moveable and immoveable assets in his name as well as in the name of his family members, the detail of which is (a) Three houses situated near Govt. value worth in lacs, (c) Vehicle Scorpio S-11 bearing No. soon when Jammu and Kashmir will once again make JK11F-5433 (Make 2022) with date of registration as 12th its future better as a state," he had said. KNO of April 2022.

Besides, the public servant as well as his family members are also in possession of other properties, the statement added. "In this way, the above named public servant namely Dil Pazeer, Junior Engineer, posted in Jal Shakti Department Division Poonch S/o Late. Sh. Mohd. Sadeeq R/o Dodasan Bala has enriched himself illicitly by indulging in corrupt practices which prima facie attract commission of offence under section 13(1) (b) r/w 13(2) Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (as amended in 2018) for possession of assets which are prima facie disproportionate to his known source of income," it added.

Anti-Corruption Bureau after registration of a formal case under relevant sections of law, also conducted simultaneous searches with the help of local police in presence of Magistrates/Independent Witnesses at the premises of above named accused person in District Jammu and District Rajouri.

Detailed and in-depth scrutiny of the seized record will be carried out during further course of investigation in the case is going on. KNO

Few low lying areas may experience temporary water logging conditions, it reads, adding that a few places may experience moderate thunderstorm and lightning. KNO

Special summary...

electoral roll and readiness for preparation of integrated draft electoral roll.

The commission will also discuss the issues raised by political parties during their meetings with the district election officers (DEOs).

On June 20, the poll-body had ordered a special summary revision of electoral rolls in the Union Territory.

On December 11 last year, the Supreme Court had directed the Election Commission of India to hold assembly elections in Jammu & Kashmir by September

On June 20, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had said that preparations have begun for assembly polls in Jammu & Kashmir. "The people of Jammu and Kashmir elect their representatives at the local level, through them you find ways to solve problems, what can be better than this? Therefore, now the preparations for PG College Kheora Rajouri having market value worth the Assembly elections have also started. The time is not in crores, (b) Double storey house constructed on plot far when you will elect the new government of Jammu No. 10N Gujjar Colony Sunjwan Jammu, having market and Kashmir with your votes. That day will also come

Unusual, abnormal...

at Kashmir University's Environmental Sciences department told KNO said that it would be too early to come up with a conclusion as to what led to the present weather conditions, but the peaks and lows can be witnessed as it is a seasonal phenomenon.

"Warming temperatures are proven and evident. These peaks and lows are a continuous process, but we can say that signs of the rising temperatures and warm ing of earth are part of climate change," the expert said.

Pertinently, Jammu and Kashmir parts surpassed the previous records as record-breaking temperatures were recorded this year in the month of July.

The heat wave gripped Kashmir Valley for a couple of days while the Jammu division also recorded scorching heat. However, some parts have breathed a sigh of relief as the light rains have occurred at multiple places since vesterday.

Meanwhile, the weatherman has predicted light to moderate rains for the next few days in Jammu and Kashmir. KNO

DDC Bandipora reviews progress under JJM schemes

JI NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, JULY 5

The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Bandipora, Shakeel ul Rehman on Friday convened a review meeting at Mini Secretariat to assess the progress achieved under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in the District.

The Mission Director, Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) J&K, Dr. G.N. Itoo also joined the meeting through online mode.

The meeting discussed the status of ongoing projects, physical progress, and challenges being faced during implementation.

It was revealed that, JJM, 33 schemes are completed, 36 schemes are other works. nearing completion, in 41 other schemes.

It was informed that have been provided func- Sumbal, 100 percent tions (FHHTCs).



It was also given out Asham, WSS Hajin Ghat, that out of 37 allotted WSS Shukurdin Shahgund works of Rapid Sand Fil- and Migrant Colony Odina tration Plants, 11 stand besides 09 water supply completed, 22 are near-schemes are expected to out of 120 schemes under ing completion, and work be completed during this is going on at full pace in month.

Out of 151 allotted works informed that out of 25 schemes 75 percent work of pipe network, 75 works works in Gurez Sub Diviis completed and work is have been completed, sion, 12 stands completed, going-on in full swing in all and work is in progress in others.

The DDC was apprised, on with full pace in others 85.74 percent households that in PHE Sub Division also. tional Tap Water Connec- physical progress has been work wise progress of cerned attended the meet-

the concerned officers of Jal Shakti Department to expedite the completion process of schemes and emphasized the collaborative efforts among all stakeholders to accelerate all JJM works

He directed the executing agency to implement robust monitoring mechanisms to track project progress, address bottlenecks, and ensure timely completion of schemes

Emphasising the role of JJM in enhancing quality of life in rural areas, the DDC asked the concerned agencies and department to redouble efforts and ensure the time-bound execution of the works.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Mohammad Ex. Engineer SSD Gurez Ashraf Bhatt, ACD Irfan Bahadur, CPO, CEO, CMO, DSWO, DIO, Executive Engineers of PHE Bandipora, PHE Sopore, PHE Mechanical North Bla/Bpr, and PO DPMU Bandipora.

Executive Engineer After reviewing the SSD Gurez and other conachieved in WSS Zonipora schemes, the DDC asked ing through virtual mode.

DC Doda engages with Aapda Mitra Volunteers to enhance **Emergency Preparedness**



JI NEWS SERVICE DODA JULY 5

Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh held a productive meeting with the volunteers of the Aapda Mitra in his office chamber, here today. The primary objective of the meeting was to provide a comprehensive overview of all parameters essential for handling emergency situations. During the session, the feedback from the volunteers was actively sought to improve future response

The meeting included an in-depth review of important guidelines and directions aimed at combating different emergency scenarios. The initiative is part of the

ongoing efforts to ensure that all stakeholders are wellprepared and equipped to handle disasters efficiently. The discussions focused on

optimizing the effectiveness of the emergency response through meticulous planning and coordination. Additionally, volunteers

Emergency Responder Kits, Certificates/I Cards/T Shirts. The distribution of these resources was conducted by Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh, emphasizing

the commitment to bolstering the capabilities of the volunteers. This move is expected to significantly enhance the readiness and resilience of the local disaster response team.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND JAMMU, **OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE)**

> **DEPARTMENT JAMMU** B.C. ROAD, BUS STAND, JAMMU TELE: 0191-2544356., 0191-2547586 E-Mail: phecejmu@gmail.com

e-NIT No. PHEJ/JJM/12 of 2024-25 Dated: 03.07.2024

two covers viz. Cover 1st consisting of Pre-Qualification Criteria, General Terms and Conditions and Technical

Specifications and Cover 2nd shall consist of Financial Bid on item rate basis, in the prescribed BOQ.

EMD

(in Rs.)

35000/-

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Chief Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Department, JAMMU invites e-tenders on item rate basis from reputed and resourceful Bidders/ Firms/Companies/Joint Ventures/ Consortiums of all classes, required to be registered with Jal Shakti (PHE) Department of UT of J&K apart from registration with JKPWD/CPWD/Railways or any other State / UT Government for "Construction of 200 mm Dia. Production Bore Wells by ODEX Method for 01 Water Supply Scheme (01 nos. Bore well) of District Reasi of Jammu Province under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)". The bidding process shall be completed online on www.jktenders.gov.in in

Rid

Validity

180

days

SBD

Blood Donation Camp organized at GDC for Women Anantnag



JI NEWS SERVICE ANANTNAG, JUNE 5

The Red Ribbon Club of Government Degree College (GDC) for Women Anantnag organized a Blood Donation Camp in collaboration with the Blood Centre (Depart- their selfless gesture in ment of Transfusion the service of the entire Medicine) Govt. Medical community. The Princi-

College Anantnag. gurated by the Princi- contributing towards the pal, Prof (Dr) Masood success of the event. As Ahmad Malik who, in his many as 45 donors paraddress, appreciated the ticipated in the event initiative and emphasized whose contribution was upon the critical impor- acknowledged with Certance of blood dona- tificates of Appreciation tion in saving lives. He from the chair.

Estimated AMOUNT

(in Rs.)

As per Appendix "E" of the

also remarked that such efforts inculcate a spirit of philanthropy besides providing timely help to those in need.

He thanked the donors who comprised student volunteers, faculty and the staff of the college for pal also lauded the efforts The event was inau- of the medical staff in

Har Ghar Jal

Time of

of work

As per bid docum

(days)

Completion

DC Kupwara reviews performance of PM Vishwakarma scheme, PDI



JI NEWS SERVICE KUPWARA, JULY 5

person of Vishwakarma ma scheme. District Implementation

On the occasion, the DC impressed upon the offi-

cers to clear all penden-The Deputy Commission- cies to ensure coverage of er (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi the targeted beneficiaries Sudan, who is Chair- under the PM Vishwakar-

It was also informed Committee, convened in the meeting that 3405 a meeting of concerned candidates were enrolled officers to review the for Pre-Skilling out of progress made under PM which basic skilling of aims at safeguarding the benefits of social security 1625 candidates have rights and promoting wel- schemes such as Pardhan The scheme which been completed under fare of the truck drivers. is aimed at promoting PM Vishwakarma scheme The camps were held entrepreneurship and by different institutes skill development among including Government artisans and craftsmen ITIs, Polytechnic College ARTO Rajouri and old bus stand Rajouri in complihas facilitated skill devel- and Private Institutions. The DC also reviewed ed access to modern tools the performance of Panand technologies and pro- chayat Development moted market linkages Index (PDI) during which sion (NHRC). for artisans in the district. the meeting discussed It was informed in the in detail the indicators meeting that 15575 appli- under Panchayat Develcations under the scheme opment Index, which were received under evaluates the perfor-Gram Panchayat and ULB mance of Panchayats Zone out of which 10292 based on various develapplications were rec- opment parameters. ACD ommended under Stage Kupwara, ACP, LDM, 1. Under Stage 2,4063 BDOs, Superintendent applications were rec- ITI Kupwara, CSC Manommended out of which ager and other concerned 3787 applications were were present in the meet-

Truck drivers, Co-drivers, Helpers registered on E-shram portal in Rajouri



JI NEWS SERVICE RAJOURI, JULY 5

09 are nearing comple-

tion, and work is going

Office of the Assistant Labour Commissioner, Rajouri organized three days on spot registration and awareness camps at different locations of district Rajouri for regis- of the registration. He tration of Truck drivers further stressed the drivand allied workers on an ers that the registration e-shram portal.

Rajouri Pradyot Gupta who urged the drivers,

cleaners and helpers of commercial vehicles registered in district Rajouri to get registered on e-shram portal either through self registration or through any CSC and take benefits on e-shranm portal will

The initiative was facilitate the government taken on the directions in ensuring that unorgaof Labour Commissioner, nized workers including Charandeep Singh and truck drivers can avail

1.

Mantri Jeevan Jeevan Jyoti

from the AAPDA MITRA Scheme were provided

strategies.

Vishwakarma scheme.

opment training, providapproved under Stage 3. ing.

Bima Yojna (PM-JJBY), on 3, 4"and 5" of July Pardhan Mantri Surkasha 2024 at Bus stand Salani, Bima Yojna (PM-SYM) etc. "Truck drivers are a vulnerable section of the ance with the advisory labour class and registraissued by the National tion under e-shram will Human Rights Commis- provide direct life insurance cover of Rs. 2 lakh

The camp was orga- and upto Rs. 1 lakh cover nized under the overall for temporary disability to supervision of Assistant the e-shram card holders Labour Commissioner, as proposed", he added.

Jindrah club honours Izna with a professional skate



Rs 3.03 Lakh fine on traders for violation of FSS Act-2006

ADC Kathua imposes

JI NEWS SERVICE

KATHUA, JULY 5

In a decisive action against Hiranagar and Basohli violation of Food Safety divisions. The action has and Standards Act (FSSA) been taken in line with 2006, the Additional the commitment of the Deputy Commissioner Kathua administration to (ADC) Kathua Ranjit Singh safeguard public health. has imposed Rs 3.03 lakh The erring commercial fine against erring traders. establishments have been

The punitive measures directed to comply with targeted traders involved food safety regulations in the distribution of and provide high-quality, substandard and mis- standardized products branded food items. The to consumers, thus preoffenders (Business Estab- serving public trust in the lishments), including market.

manufacturers, distributors and retailers operate in Kathua, Billawar,

> JI NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, JULY 5

Roller Athelte skating club Jindrah honoured Ms Izna sharma, an upcoming and talented roller hockey handed over the professional hockey skate to last year.

Izna on behalf of the Jindrah club.Earlier Izna had

represented Jammu and Kashmir in many nationals and won medals.It is pertinent to mention here that the club had started player with an import- the program of honoured roller hockey skate. ing best skater with the Ganesh Dass Sharma professional skate for the skaters of the club since

tender Documents

District

(JJM)

Particulars of the

Construction of 200 mm Dia. Production

Bore Wells by ODEX

Method for 01 Water

Supply Scheme (01) Bore well) of

Jammu Province under

Jal Jeevan Mission

Reasi

of

Tender

fee (in Rs.)

000/-

Sr No.

Position of funds: Available Under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) The tender inviting authority is Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Department Jammu The awarding authority is District Jal Jeevan Mission (DJJM) Reasi

Critical Dates:

i	Publish Date	03.07.2024
ii	Document Download/sale start Date	03.07.2024
iii	Date of Pre-bid meeting	05.07.2024 (12:00 Noon)
iv	Bid submission start date	05.07.2024 (4.00 PM onwards)
v	Bid submission end date	15.07.2024 (6:00 PM)
vi	Date and time of Bid opening	16.07.2024 (3:00PM)

- Bid documents downloaded website 1. accessed from the
- 2. The pre-bid meeting shall held in the office chamber of the Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Department, Jammu through virtual/online mode.
- 3. The whole bidding process shall be completed online on tender portal www.jktenders.gov.in. The intending bidders can download the bid document from the tender portal and can submit their bids by uploading them on the tender portal.
- The valid bids received shall be opened online in the office of the Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) 4. Department, Jammu,
- Bids must be accompanied by cost of Tender Document and EMD as specified in column 3 & 4 of the table 5. and shall be payable at Jammu
- EMD to be pledged in favour of Chief Accounts Officer (CAO), Jal Shakti PHE Department Jammu. EMD a. will be in the form of CDR/ FDR/BG of any scheduled Bank and shall be valid for a period of 90 days from the last date of submission of bid.
- b. The cost of tender documents should be in form of TR / e-challan / Receipt under Major Head, MH:0215 in favour of CAO, Jal Shakti (PHE)Department Jammu or by online payment via NEFT/RTGS as detailed below:-
 - A/c Name : Chief Account Officer, PHE Jammu.
 - J & K Bank Ltd. Bank
 - Account No: 0097010100002093
 - IFSC : JAKA0TNHALL
 - Branch : Town Hall Jammu
- The hard copies of cost of tender document in shape of TR/e-challan/NEFT, Earnest money in shape of CDR/FDR/BG and other relevant documents and other relevant documents shall be obtained from the bidder who is declared as L1.
- The bid shall remain valid for a period of 180 days from the last date of submission of bids. If any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the bid shall be declared non-responsive.
- 8 Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website www.jktenders.gov.in.
- Queries by email if any, should be made at pheceimu@gmail.com.

No: PHEJ/JJM/1277-89

Date: 03.07.2024

Sd/-Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti, (PHE)Department

DIP/J-2404/24 Date: 5-7-24



EDITORIAL

J&K at a political crossroad!

he upcoming Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir, as and when to be held, will mark a significant milestone, being the first since the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019. As political parties gear up for the polls, the landscape is rife with anticipation, strategy, and the promise of new beginnings. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has already initiated comprehensive preparations. Directed by the high command, the J&K unit is readying itself with regionspecific strategies and a mass contact program. Union Ministers are set to tour each constituency, ensuring the party's presence is felt across the Union Territory. This strategic mobilization, discussed in a high-level meeting chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP National President Jagat Prakash Nadda, underscores the party's commitment to securing a significant foothold in J&K's political landscape. The National Conference, another key player, is also in full swing with its preparations. In a recent two-day working committee meeting led by party president Farooq Abdullah and vice president Omar Abdullah, the NC deliberated on the prevailing political situation, organizational strengthening, and election strategies. The party has established a committee to draft its manifesto, aiming to address the core issues and future course of action. This structured approach indicates the NC's resolve to regain its influence and navigate the new political terrain effectively. The Congress party is not far behind in its election readiness. Senior leader Ghulam Nabi Monga mentioned that the party is holding meetings to boost its cadres and gather feedback from grassroots workers. Open to potential alliances, the Congress aims to consolidate its position in the Union Territory. Their collaboration with the NC in the recent Lok Sabha elections suggests a strategy of unity against common adversaries. The People's Democratic Party (PDP), although historically aligned with the BJP, is charting a new course this time. In its political affairs committee meeting, the PDP discussed election preparations and is poised to announce constituency in-charges soon. The party's past experience of forming a coalition government with the BJP, described by former Chief Minister and PDP founder Mufti Mohammed Sayeed as "bringing together the North Pole with South Pole," adds a layer of complexity to its current political stance. As J&K braces for these pivotal elections, the political environment is charged with activity and strategic maneuvering. The 2014 Assembly elections saw the PDP and BJP emerge as the largest parties, leading to an unexpected coalition. This time, however, the dynamics have shifted, with the PDP and NC now part of the Congress-led INDIA bloc, signaling new alliances and potential realignments. The forthcoming elections in J&K are not just about choosing representatives; they symbolize a new chapter in the region's complex political history. The outcomes will undoubtedly shape the future trajectory of governance, development, and regional stability. As political parties rally their forces and engage with the electorate, the stakes are higher than ever, and the eyes of the nation are keenly watching.

Women suffer in silence as violence against them keeps increasing

women in 2022.

Tiolence against had the highest number women remains of recorded rape cases, critical issue with over 31,000 inciin our society, hinder- dents reported across the ing both their physical country and 5,399 cases development and mental registered in the state. The well-being. According to report also reveals that the 2022 annual report most incidents of violence by the National Crime or discrimination against Records Bureau (NCRB), women are perpetrated crimes against women by their husbands or close increased by four per relatives. Gender-based cent in 2022 compared violence encompasses to 2021. Over 5.8 million physical, mental, sexual, cases of crime were regand economic abuse, istered across the coun- with intimate partner try in 2022, with nearly violence being the most 450,000 involving crimes widespread form. Women against women. This often experience sexual or translates to an alarming physical violence from an average of around 51 FIRs intimate partner at some registered every hour for point in their lives.

violence against women. Despite the prevalence The report highlights that of violence, many women the highest number of do not report these incicases of violence against dents due to several factors. First, the burden women were recorded in Delhi, the capital city, of the family's honour is while Jaipur, the capital disproportionately placed of Rajasthan, was listed on women, instilling fear as the fourth most unsafe and preventing them from city for women. Rajast- reporting the abuse, even han is the third state with to close family members. household income, my the highest number of Second, many women two daughters and I colcases of violence against lack access to support lect trash daily, and I had

Notably, Rajasthan confide and seek help. Third, and perhaps most crucially, there is a widespread unawareness of the support systems and legal frameworks established by the government to aid women affected by violence. However, some women - who are a little aware and have found support groups - raise their voices against the violence they face and report it to the police.

One example of this courage is found in Baba Ramdev Nagar Kachhi Basti in Jaipur, Rajasthan, where gender discrimination and violence are prevalent. Meena Devi (name changed), a 38-year-old resident, shared her experience: "I collect trash, and my husband works as a laborer. We have six children, including four daughters. Our financial situation is dire, and my husband sometimes does not find work

To contribute to the

groups where they can to stop their schooling." She further revealed, "My which also affected my daughters.

courage to call the police, recounted her story: "My and since then, he has significantly reduced the violence."This settlement, predominantly inhabited by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, is Gurjar Ki Thadi area.

residents engage in occupations such as blacksmithing, scavenging, drumming at weddings, bamboo crafting, and daily wage labour.

it is so common for women to be subjected to violence space to share their expe- the help they need. Only by their husbands that it does not bother anyone in the settlement. Most Mishra, who has been to build a capable, equal, men indulge in substance working on the health of and violence-free society abuse and mistreat their wives

Although several non- government has enacted government organizations several laws to protect are working in the area to women from gender-

raise awareness among based violence and women to stand up against women can file complaints husband used to beat me this violence, the problem against the violence they after getting intoxicated, has not been completely face. Various NGOs are eradicated. Another also working here to raise woman, who preferred awareness among women One day, I gathered the to remain anonymous, about gender discrimination and violence." This husband works as a scrap effort has started showdealer, while I stay busy ing results, as women in with household chores." the settlement have now She explained that her started to stand up against husband gets intoxicated the violence and seek every day and abuses support from the police. located about 10 kilome- her. Her hands bore burn Addressing these issues tres from the city in the marks, evidence of the requires a multi-faceted physical violence she approach. Cultural norms With a population of endured. She said that that place the burden of over 500 people, many other women in the set- family honour on women tlement often protect her must be challenged and from her husband's vioredefined. lence and have advised Efforts to increase

her to seek help from the awareness of support police, but she does not groups and governmental resources must be inten-Meena mentioned that by partners leaves women sified, ensuring that all without access to a safe women have access to through collective soci-Social worker Akhilesh etal effort can we hope

EDI'I

women and children in for all women. (The author is a social worker; views expressed are personal.Charkha Features)

The rise of radical rebels in Pakistan

BHOPINDER SINGH

KAVITA DHAMEJA

lergy has always played a pivotal role in the Pakistani narrative. The indelible impact of the 'Mullahs' has historically cut across the Military 'establishment', political parties, puritanical displays and appropriations to pos-Pakistan. However, it must

the world, whilst injecting toxic-religiosity and religious extremism back home.

The bunny of religion is essentially for public consumption to be invoked whenever everything else institutions of power like fails e.g., beseeching Arab Sheikhs or Turkey for lifesustaining aid in the name civilian society, academia of a "brotherly muslim et al. Each has, in their nation". The personal lives own way succumbed to of the ruling Sharif family and the feudal Bhuttos are hardly the modicum ture alignment befitting of religious idyls, and the the "land of the pure" or same discomfort applies to the Westernised Genbe said that many of these erals who are increasinstitutions have also pri- ingly facing the wrath of vately harboured the exact the angry, long-bearded, opposite instincts and armed, and madrasapreferences, from what educated tribals. Today, it has been prescribed by seems the ability of Pakithe clerical order. These stan's ruling elite to sucinstitutions have pandered cessfully play the patentto religiosity only to tick ed double game has run at the end of the day it is society, in a holistic and e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) thawing relations with outin the box their own false, its course. Not only have "Taliban", an unhinged comprehensive manner. who would want them siders and no longer surand publicly fronted sense the radicalized masses outcome of affording extra It is easier said than done, to be bolder and indulge viving on Pakistani doles, of piety to legitimise their (generously fanned by the



edly imported back to its Pakistani dispensation has original source. The elite finally realise Azm-i-Istehkam which

that it cannot differentiate between "Good Taliban" lishment' goes slow on ties. anti-terror operations in restive areas.

wish to do so.Such control

riences and seek advice.

this area explains, "The

come up with Operation them to the frustrated Pakseeks to eradicate terrorists, and religious extremand "Bad Taliban", for ism, and deradicalize organisations like Tehreek- ban Government in Kabul

the morass. Such parties multilateral agencies (IMF, have not only imported World Bank etc), Weststrains of alien Wahhabism ern Powers or even Arab or Salafism but have been Sheikhdoms are pitted instrumental in ensuring against the agendas and that the Pakistani 'estab- outcomes of religious par-

The so-called 'iron brother' Chinese have Caught between offer- invested over \$62 billion ing perfunctory platitudes in the China-Pakistan Ecotowards the integrity of nomic Corridors (CPEC) Pakistan and the safety of and they cannot allow the its citizens - they are also religio-extremist Baluch simultaneously offering insurgents to attack Chimealy-mouthed sugges- nese interests as part tions to not partake in mili- of their 'sacred' duties. taristic operations. They Middle Eastern countries are truly caught between too have had their own the devil and the blue tryst with the likes of sea, for their wishy-washy the Muslim Brotherhood stand will neither endear and their offshoots from Egypt, Jordan, and Kuwait istani Government (which to Saudi Arabia, and have they are no longer a part of clamped down on the the ruling coalition), nor to same. Now with the Taligenerous space to religion given the deep-rooted grip in plain-speak in favour Afghans also cock a snook

relevance, whilst indulging elites in 'Olive Green' or in governance. Terror- of religiosity. in vices, degeneracies, and Servants) refused to take ism has gripped Pakistan excesses. A cursory look at orders, but far worse, with elements 'within', tance (though time will tell the long list of the Pakistani they have turned on their infamous in the Pandora begetters! Creations like Papers or Panama List is a the 'Taliban' which was a veritable who's-who of the joint project between the Pakistani elites, who poswily politicians, amoral ture simplicity, austerity, Generals, and unhinged and god-fearing honesty clergy, simply refuse to in the public sphere. This take orders from their has led to the elites leadprogenitor. The proding notoriously duplicitous uct i.e., Taliban, which lives with ill-gotten prop- was made for the export es and outreach, in every sectarian denominations sure 'failed-state' status

going rogue. Elites now sense that not only must they take on the terror elements directly (as they have done multiple times, still terrorism worsened), but it must also snuff out the oxygen that breeds and

nurtures the terror industry i.e., religious insistenc-

This refreshing accepif it is sincere or posturing) of religious overload needs

to be unloaded. For starters, it will diminish the role of Azm-i-Istehkam, and they Islamist political parties are unlikely to find too like Maulana Fazlur Rehm- many partners to go along an's Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam with them.Forces that are (F), or even the various key to bailing out Pakimilitias and formations of stan economically from erties and excesses across market, is getting unwant- sphere of Pakistani reality. who have contributed to e.g., China, international

of religious and radical at historical equations and bodies. madrasa-fed ranks from

Nonetheless, these reli-Pakistan. All this dimingious parties are mulling ishes the relevance of reliputting together an ostengious parties in Pakistan sible 'resistance moveand if the Pakistanis grasp ment' against Operation the opportunity, they may just be able to overcome their history and instincts.

(The writer, a military veteran, is a former Lt **Governor of Andaman** & Nicobar Islands and Puducherry. The views expressed are personal)

Balancing motivation and misuse in India's research landscape

BIJU DHARMAPALAN tering for PhD as an escap-

identify gaps in existing output can lead to techno-

ism will not reap any benhigher academic efits for the student or the degree like a PhD country. Many students A degree like a rine country. The register for PhD as a stopa symbol of quality. PhD gap arrangement before training emphasizes inno- their marriage, a permavation and the ability to nent government job, or as tackle complex problems. a fashion to be called 'Dr.'. Graduates are expected They never assess their to think independently, motivation for pursuing a PhD degree. Are they pasknowledge, and propose sionate about the research novel solutions, making topic? Or Have they reflectthem valuable assets in ed on their career goals? both academic and indus- If the alignment is strong, try settings. The more PhD it might justify pursuing holders a country produc- a research degree that is es, the more productive a highly demanding and country will be. Countries time-consuming. The most with more PhD holders successful PhD candidates tend to produce more sci- are often driven by intrinentific publications and sic motivations such as patents. This intellectual intellectual curiosity, passion for their field of study, logical advancements and a desire to contribute improvements in various new knowledge. These industries, driving innova- motivations sustain them tion and economic growth. through the challenges of

Despite having the research work.Recently, Tamil Nadu, college teachadvantages of higher it has been observed that ers work for a salary as provide a refuge from socienrolments for the nation, many scholars registering low as Rs. 4000- 8000 etal expectations of marthe current system of regis- for PhD through national- per month. Qualifying for riage, family responsibili- the word that education



try to prolong their study for the sake of fellowship amount.

level competitive fellow- a national test will at least ships like CSIR, UGC etc, provide a scholar with a decent salary for 3 to 5 years. The sole motive of

the scholar is financial sup-In many colleges in port. For some, the academic environment may

ties, and other traditional should be accessible to roles. Unfortunately, even everyone and dispelling today, female students are myths about women's abilnot provided the freedom ities and goals. It's essential to make decisions. Our for prospective PhD cansociety gives a girl's mar- didates to carefully conriage more importance sider their motivations than acquiring knowledge. and the potential impact

requires extensive study, a PhD solely for recogniself-sufficiency, and intel- tion or prestige, without lectual development, a genuine commitment which are priceless assets to contribute meaningful to the community. Even research or knowledge, in a highly literate society offers little benefit to socilike Kerala, many women, ety or the nation. People even after getting a PhD who do research for name degree, are forced to stick sake are involved in many to societal norms and unethical practices, like move away from active outsourcing the work and research. Many students outsourcing their thesis with PhD degrees ultimately land in job sectors to other agencies. Unfortuwhere their research has no role, like clerical jobs in government sectors, banks, or even as a school teacher, to cite a few.

To change people's research. minds, we must keep fighting for equal rights for women, spreading

Earning a doctorate of their research. Pursuing writing and paper writing nately, these people reach higher positions through their influence, overtaking genuine researchers who have toiled their lives for

(The writer is an adjunct faculty at the National **Institute of Advanced** Studies; views are personal)

HEALTH

fuelling obesity & diabetes in India: Report AGENCIES

NEW DELHI, JULY 5

Advertisements of et games or few on social unhealthy food products media. with high salt (HFSS) food products, or ultra- ment to amend existing processed food (UPF) are misleading and are "seduc- misleading ads. tive, luring, manipulative or deceptive" people to India is facing persistent buy and in turn increasing undernutrition among the incidences of obesity children under five, and a and diabetes, according to a new report on Friday.

The report '50 Shades ups. of Food Advertising', by

took note of some of the ads that appeared in TV commercials during crick-

It calls upon the governregulations to end these

The report comes as rising trend of obesity and diabetes among grown-

The recent ICMRthe Nutrition Advocacy National Institute of Nutriin Public Interest (NAPi), tion (NIN)'s dietary guideis based on an observa- lines for Indians reveals tional study of the appeal that more than 10 per



among Indians by 2025. The report provides eviin 50 advertisements of cent of 5-19- year-olds are dence that food and drink use of experts, appropriatfood products that have pre-diabetic. This is when products under the cate- ing benefits of real fruits, appeared in popular Eng- the government has set gory of unhealthy/HFSS or using celebrities to add lish and Hindi newspapers a target to halt the rise UPFs "are being advertised value to the brand, proavailable in Delhi and also of obesity and diabetes by using different appeals jecting as healthy, etc".

such as evoking emotional feelings, manipulating the the FSS Act of 2006, the whole," he added. Cable TV Networks Regulation Act, 1994 and Rules, stopping any food adver-

Act of 2019, and the Norms uct is HFSS and UPF. of Journalistic Conduct 2022.

called on the government to help authorities like to implement measures the FSSAI make a quick for "each advertisement decision to stop it, said to disclose in bold letters Nupur Bidla, a member the amount of nutrient of concern per 100 gram/ml". tist, adding that the delay

It would be in the best interest of the people's health that a public health 'freedom' to advertise and 'Bill' is proposed in the make money while public Parliament to halt obesity. health may suffer".

It noted that these If we fail to halt the rising advertisements mislead trend, it will only increase on many counts; and the disease and economic also provide information burden, year by year on on the gaps in the exist- the individual family and ing legislations, such as the health system as a

NAPi also recommends the Consumer Protection tisements if the food prod-

The report also provides an objective method Arun Gupta, a pediatri- of identifying what is miscian and NAPi convenor, leading food advertising of NAPi and a social scienin banning the ads helps "companies to enjoy the

NITI Aayog launches 'Sampoornata Abhiyan' focused on health, nutrition, agriculture

JINDRAH IMAGES

AGENCIES NEW DELHI, JULY 5

The NITI Aayog on Thurspoornata Abhiyan' with a Districts. focus on themes such as health, nutrition, agricul- officials and Young Profesture, social development, sionals are "participating and education. This com- in the launch events in prehensive three-month person across 300 discampaign, running from tricts to guide and sup-July 4 to September 30, port local governance in aims to achieve 100 per organising and executing cent saturation of 12 key the campaign effectively". social sector indicators It also mentioned that the across all Aspirational collaboration with rel-Districts and Blocks.

As part of the 3-month and Departments, and long campaign, district state and Union Territory and block officials, along governments will not only with elected people's rep- bolster efforts to achieve resentatives, will organise the campaign's objectives awareness activities like but also "strengthen the Gram Sabhas, Nukkad spirit of Competitive and Natak, Paushtik Aahar Cooperative Federalism in Mela, Health camps, ICDS ensuring socio-economic camps, Awareness March- development in the hines and Rallies, Exhibitions, terland".

Poster making and Poem competitions around 12 themes identified for 100 per cent saturation across day launched the 'Sam- all Aspirational Blocks and

NITI Aayog said that the evant Central Ministries

Study shows how cancer evades chemotherapy, finds mechanism to reverse

AGENCIES NEW DELHI, JULY 5

An international team of researchers from the UK and China has shown how cancer builds up resistance to chemotherapy -- one of the biggest challenges in the treatment of the deadly disease.

Using a mice study, the early-stage research, led by The Institute of Cancer Research (ICR), London, and Sun Yat-sen University, China showed that Stiripentol -- a drug currently used to treat epilepsy -- can help reverse help shrink tumours and prolong survival.

ents to energy -- which was grow. found to be most abundant



cancer tissues.

size of tumours -- for four For the study, pub- weeks after treatment -- in cancer's resistance to lished in the journal mice with stomach cancer. chemotherapy, which will Nature, the researchers These also survived for examined tissue from 24 longer -- for more than 70 patients with stomach days.

In the study, the team cancer, where 15 of the zeroed in on lactate -- the cancers were resistant to in mice treated with cheproduct that builds up as chemotherapy and the motherapy alone shrunk cancer cells convert nutri- tumours had continued to for one week and started

in chemotherapy-resistant motherapy reduced the survived for longer than

40 days after treatment. Further, lactate was

also found responsible for altering the structure of a key protein involved in DNA repair, called NBS1, and affecting its efficiency.

The researchers believe that lactate may be behind chemotherapy resistance in other cancers such as "pancreatic, lung and ovarian cancers".

"This extremely promising research has uncovered a likely mechanism for how cancer evades chemotherapy," said Professor Axel Behrens, Professor of Stem Cell Biology at The Institute of Cancer Research.

"In our early-stage study, we've seen that vou In comparison, tumours can prevent the buildup of lactate and make a tumour that was resistant to chemotherapy sensito grow again. With only tive again -- the treatment Stiripentol and che- chemotherapy, no mice continues to work," Axel added

Elderly Uzbekistan man undergoes robotassisted surgery for rare colonic tumour

AGENCIES FARIDABAD, JULY 5

A 67-year-old man from Uzbekistan has been given a new lease of life after being successfully treated for his rare colonic tumour via robot-assisted surgery.

"This marks the world's first robot-assisted surgery for the condition," according to a statement from Amrita Hospital, Faridabad.

The patient was presented to doctors with a special condition where his liver and colon were positioned differently (situs inversus partial), and he had a malignant tumour in Situs inversus partial is incidence (including both approximately one in 10,000 people.

The tumour was found



to be a rare variant of significantly enhances colonic malignancy. The precision and accuratumour was obstructing cy during procedures the patient's large intes- through its advanced featine, preventing him from tures. The operation was inal distension.

this mispositioned colon. eating solid foods and conducted using a console They can continue with posing a risk of spread and that provides a magnified, their normal life without quite rare, with overall complications. His symp- high-resolution 3D view of the need for long-term toms included vomiting, the surgical site, offering medications or restrictotalis and partial) being inability to eat, weight superior depth perception tions," said Saleem Naik, loss, anaemia, and abdom- and detailed anatomical Senior Consultant, GI visuals," said Abhishek Surgery, Amrita Hospital, "Robot-assisted surgery Agrawal, Robotic GI Faridabad.

Oncosurgery Consultant, Department of Gastrointestinal Surgery, Amrita Hospital, Faridabad, who led the six-hours long surgery

By the third day, the patient was able to resume a normal diet and was discharged just a week after the procedure, the hospital said.

"Based on the final biopsy report, the patient will need to undergo chemotherapy. After completing the treatment, he will only require routine blood tests and imaging for surveillance to detect any early recurrence and receive timely treatment.

Zika Virus: Reports of 41 samples of pregnant women 4.9 per cent Indian kids, adolescents suffer from impaired kidney function: Study

awaited, PMC to meet with hospitals on Monday

AGENCIES

PUNE, JULY 5

Even as no new cases of Zika virus infection were reported by the Pune Municipal Corporation's health department today, officials said they were awaiting results of a total of 41 samples of pregnant women that have been collected from health authorities.

ed surveillance activities foetus of the affected tive for Zika.



areas where the Zika Warje, Hadapsar and close monitoring", Dr virus infection cases were Mundhwa areas to check Baliwant added. In their detected. These have now for mosquito breeding advisory the centre has been sent to the National sites and planned a meet- directed states to instruct said. Earlier this week, as health teams identi-Institute of Virology. So ing with doctors of major the health facilities in the part of the surveillance fied mosquito breeding far two pregnant women hospitals on Monday," Dr affected areas or those activities, breeding sites sites at 246 homes and have tested positive for Kalpana Baliwant, Acting catering to cases from the infection and are chief medical officer, affected areas to screen hospitals and large coop- been issued. A fine of Rs asymptomatic. A total Pune Municipal Corpo- the pregnant women for erative housing societies. 66,800 has been levied of six cases have been ration said. "As Zika is Zika virus infection and "We have issued notices," reported so far by civic associated with micro- monitor the growth of the Dr Dighe added. Accordcephaly and neurologi- foetus of expecting moth- ing to senior officials citizens to empty water "We have also conduct- cal consequences in the ers who have tested posi- with PMC, the surveil- containers, air coolers

states have been instruct- basement. ed to advise health facili-

Rajesh Dighe, Assistant Hadapsar, Dahanukar chief medical officer, PMC colony- Kothrud . "PMC were detected at some at least 82 notices have

"At many places, hosties/hospitals to identify pitals have appointed a nodal officer to monitor an agency to undertake and act to keep the prem- pre-monsoon work, ises Aedes mosquito-free. hence only a few mos-"Accordingly, we have quito breeding sites stepped up surveillance were found," the offiactivities across Zones 3 cials said. On Friday, the and 4 that include areas insect control team of of Warje, Karve Nagar, PMC conducted surveil-Sinhagad road and lance activities across Hadapsar, Wanowrie, 7791 homes at Erand-Mudhwa and others," Dr wane- Warje, Mundhwafrom the defaulters.

Dr Dighe has appealed lance activity includes and ensure that there are at more than 10-12 large pregnant lady, we want As per the Central a thorough check of the no mosquito breeding hospitals in Karve Nagar, to alert the clinicians for Government Guidelines, hospitals from terrace to sites within their homes.

AGENCIES NEW DELHI, JULY 5

About 4.9 per cent of children and adolescents in India suffer from impaired kidney function, according to the first nationwide survey released on Thursday. Impaired kidney function causes kidney damage to worsen over several months or years showed 4.9 per cent of tion was found more in -- chronic kidney disease children and adolescents, males and rural areas. (CKD). It is a significant which amounts to around public health problem, 49,000 cases per million Pradesh, followed by not well described.

researchers from All India dence, lower maternal Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Rajas-Institute of Medical Scienc- education, and stunting. than, and Kerala. es - Bathinda and Vijaypur, Addressing these factors and The George Institute is crucial for improving impaired kidney function for Global Health India, child health outcomes", among Indian children is based on the Compre- said Prof. Vivekanand and adolescents underhensive National Nutrition Jha, Executive Director, scores the urgent need Survey (CNNS) of 24,690 The George Institute for for targeted interventions children and adolescents Global Health, India, in a and policies to address aged 5-19 years between post on X. The prevalence this growing public health 2016 and 18. The results of impaired kidney func- issue.



Further, Andhra

and its burden in children population suffer from Telangana and West and adolescents in India is impaired kidney function. Bengal showed the high-The "key predictors est cases, while the preva-The new study by include age, rural resi- lence was lowest in Tamil "The high prevalence of

Novel method to counter chemotherapy resistance in pancreatic cancer developed

AGENCIES NEW DELHI, JULY 5

Stanford researchers have may pave the way for new the physical stiffness of the treatments.

Pancreatic cancer is ous cells. often aggressive and diffi-

toms and screening tools py, while softer tissue needed to detect the dis- made the cancer cells more responsive to ease in its initial stages.

In the study, published chemotherapy," said developed a new method in the journal Nature Sarah Heilshorn, Proto reverse pancreatic can- Materials, the researchers fessor of Materials Scicer's resistance to chemo- revealed that the resis- ence and Engineering therapy, an advance that tance is related to both at Stanford University. The finding may tissue around the cancer- lead to "future drug development to help

"We found that stiffer overcome chemoresiscult to treat and also has a tissue can cause pancreat- tance, which is a major poor survival rate, marred ic cancer cells to become clinical challenge in by a lack of distinct symp- resistant to chemothera- pancreatic cancer",

she added.

The team focused for 90 per cent of pan-humans. creatic cancer cases.

their efforts on pan- block, stopping chemo- creas tissues. Using their acts with cells through creatic ductal adeno- therapy drugs from reach- new system, the research- a receptor called CD44 carcinoma -- a cancer ing cancerous cells, said ers selectively activated -- make pancreatic cancer that starts in the cells researchers, noting treat- certain types of receptors resistant to chemotherapy. lining the ducts of the ments based on this idea in the cancerous cells and The researchers found that pancreas and accounts have not been effective in adjusted the chemical and they could reverse this

In the study, the team designer matrix. In these cancers, the developed a designer network of materi- matrix system -- where cally stiff extracellular hyaluronic acid) or blockals between the cells, three-dimensional materi- matrix, the team found ing the CD44 receptor known as the extracel- als mimicked the biochem- that high amounts of hyal- (even if the matrix was lular matrix, becomes ical and mechanical prop- uronic acid -- a polymer still stiff).

notably stiffer. This stiff erties of both pancreatic that stiffens the extracelmaterial acts as a physical tumours and healthy pan- lular matrix and interphysical properties of their development by moving

In addition to a physi- (even if it was still high in

the cells to a softer matrix



NATIONAL

Issue of Indians serving in Russian Army expected to figure in Modi-Putin talks: FS

AGENCIES NEW DELHI, JULY 5

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to take up the issue of the "early discharge" of Indian nationals serving in the Russian Army on the Ukraine war front, during his summit talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Moscow, Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra said here today.

"The issue of early discharge of Indian nationals army is also expected to him. figure in the discussion,"



Prime Minister Modi he will lay a wreath at the will arrive in Moscow in tomb of the Unknown Solthe late afternoon on July dier. who have been misled into 8, and President Putin will the service of the Russian host a private dinner for level talks between the

The following day, PM the Foreign Secretary said Modi will have an interacat a special briefing ahead tion with the Indian com- afternoon of July 9. of PM Modi's visit to Russia munity in Russia, and as and Austria from July 8-10. part of the programme annual summit talks will

issues, including defence, trade linkages, investment ties, energy cooperation, science and tech, education, culture and people to people exchanges," said the FS. "They will also exchange perspectives on global and regional developments of mutual interest," he added.

The PM is expected to take up the issue of Indian There will be restricted being made to fight in the two leaders followed by delegation level talks. He Ukraine war, said Kwatra. He said that India and will leave for Vienna in the

"The 22nd India-Russia since 2020 which has in 41 years.

provide an opportunity to remained resilient in the the two leaders to review wake of multiple geopolitithe whole range of bilateral cal challenges in the world - referring to the Ukraine conflict and the resultant Western sanctions on Russia.

He said the bilateral trade is more than USD 60 billion, which is heavily skewed in favour of Russia. The trade imbalance is a matter of priority in discussions with Russia, he

added. Prime Minister Narennationals who have been dra Modi will pay an Offiduped into serving in cial Visit to Russia from the Russian army and July 8-9 for a bilateral summit with President Vladimir Putin, and then go to Austria July 9-10, in Russia have a special and the first visit by an Indian privileged partnership Prime Minister to Austria

The Centre, in a preliminary of honest candidates" who appeared in it on May 5.

NEW DELHI, JULY 5

AGENCIES

declared. It is submitted nations has been breached, that in any examination, they must be dealt with there are competing rights sternly and with the full affidavit filed before the that have been created force of law to ensure that Supreme Court on Friday whereby the interests of a they are punished. opposed the batch of pleas large number of students seeking cancellation of the who have taken the exami- committed to ensure the NEET-UG examination, for nation without adopting sanctity of examinations admission in undergradu- any alleged unfair means and protect the interest ate medical programmes, must not also be jeop- of students. To ensure saying it would affect "lakhs ardised," the affidavit said.

'Will affect lakhs of honest students': Centre

opposes cancellation of NEET-UG exam in SC

As regards the alleged and credibility in public instances of irregularities, examination, Parliament The Union Ministry of including cheating, imper- has enacted the Public Education said that scrap- sonation, and malprac- Examination (Prevention ping the entire exam would tices, the Central Bureau of Unfair Means) Act, 2024 seriously jeopardise the of Investigation (CBI) is on 12.02.2024. The Act interests of the lakhs of undertaking an investiga- was brought into effect on honest candidates who tion and has taken over the 21.06.2024 and provides for attempted the question cases registered in different stringent punishment for paper held on May 5 this states, it added. The Centre offences related to unfair year. "In the absence of said that it is committed to means in public examiany proof of any large-scale conducting all competitive nations. Public Examinabreach of confidentiality in examinations in a fair and tion (Prevention of Unfair a pan-India examination, transparent manner and if Means) Rules, 2024 under it would not be rational to at the behest of some crimi- the Act have also been notiscrap the entire examina- nal elements, the confiden- fied on 23.06.2024," it said.

tion and the results already tiality of competitive exami-

"The Government is transparency, fairness,

India, Congo Secy-level meet held; aim to work on defence cooperation

AGENCIES

NEW DELHI, JULY 5

The first Secretary- the potential of defence level meeting between cooperation between the Defence Ministries of two countries, an official India and Democratic statement said. Republic of Congo (DRC) cooperation.

led by Defence Secretary facturing capability. Giridhar Aramane and included senior officers the need for moderniof Ministries of Defence sation of their Armed and External Affairs.

Major General Lukuikila and co-development. Metikwiza Marcel and Embassy of DRC in India. Upendra Dwivedi.

The meeting was

aimed at identifying areas for collaboration to fulfill

Detailed discussions was held here on Friday, were held to promote with focus on identifying cooperation in training areas for collaboration to and defence industry. fulfill the potential The Indian delegation of bilateral defence highlighted the significant progress, India has The Indian side was made in defence manu-

The DRC side shared Forces and expressed The Congolese delega- confidence in the capation was led by Permanent bility of the India defence Secretary of Defence, industry and suggested Ministry of Defence, areas of co-production

Earlier, the Congo delincluded senior officers egation called on Chief and a representative of of the Army Staff General

GORAKHPUR, JULY 5

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on

AGENCIES

machine (Varian Halcy- ernment level. on) at Hanuman Prasad Geeta Vatika here, the CM be up-to-date and capaadvancements. Additionsensitivity.

He said, "Whether an

left behind. Therefore, it is crucial to stay ahead of time to foster healthy competition in our field."

Yogi noted that medi-Friday emphasised that cal institutions must stay exemplary technology and connected with ongoing behaviour are essential for research in the medical any medical institution to and health sectors to stay be effective and successful. ahead. He pointed out that While addressing a people's ability to afford gathering after inaugu- healthcare has increased, rating the fourth state- and many facilities are of-the-art radiotherapy now available at the gov-

He said, "Numerous Poddar Cancer Hospital individuals in the state and Research Institute in have benefited from schemes such as the Pradsaid, "Technology should han Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, Mukhya Mantri ble of anticipating future Jan Arogya Yojana, and the Chief Minister Relief ally, the entire medical Fund. As a result, there team should exhibit great is a growing demand for high-quality facilities."

The CM emphasised that individual or an institu- cutting-edge technology tion fails to keep pace with and compassionate human time, it results in being behaviour are crucial for a institution. He stressed the provide exceptional treat- ment fully supports the Vatika temple.

Cutting-edge tech, compassionate behaviour crucial in medical field: Yogi

medical institution. "Doctors, paramedical staff, nurses, and all associated personnel should empathize with patients, treat their pain as their own,

and serve them with dedication. Additionally, the institution needs to keep pace with technological advancements," he said. He highlighted that staying ahead of time in treating diseases like cancer is even more critical for the

importance of continuous efforts to ensure citizens brought immense sorrow Prasad Poddar Cancer benefit from the latest to entire families, often Hospital and Research research.

Prasad Poddar Cancer Hospital for its commitment treatment with improved ation from the specialist to staying at the forefront healthcare access and doctor present. of technological advancements, Yogi remarked, "Since 2013, the hospital has consistently embraced new technologies, installing four state-of-the-art he said. machines sequentially to

ment facilities."

years of service.

people's healthcare needs He said that the hospi- and raising societal awaretal swiftly replaces older ness about these benefits technologies with newer is crucial."

ones. He highlighted that He urged other charita-Hanuman Prasad Poddar ble organisations to con-Cancer Hospital, which tribute to healthcare and has established a distin- education. "By working guished reputation in together, the government health and medicine, will and these organisations celebrate its golden jubi- can offer the best possible lee next year, marking 50 facilities," he said.

After inaugurating the The CM said that in the advanced radiotherapy past, a cancer diagnosis machine at Hanuman only discovered at an Institute, the CM inspected Commending Hanuman advanced stage. "Today, the machine and received people can receive better information about its oper-

Following the inaugulike Pradhan Mantri Jan ration, the CM paid his Arogya Yojana, Mukhya- respects at the memorial mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, site of Hanuman Prasad Poddar and his close associate Radha Baba and per-He said, "The govern- formed a puja at the Geeta

Liquor scam: Delhi HC issues notice to CBI on Kejriwal's bail plea

AGENCIES NEW DELHI, JULY 5

The triple test or the tripod test for deciding bail application takes The Delhi High Court on into account whether the



observing that the arrest, at this stage, cannot be AGENCIES said to be illegal. NEW DELHI. JULY 5

Later, on June 29, vaca-

6th EAS Conference on Maritime Security Cooperation for strengthening ASEAN-led EAS mechanism

support from schemes

and the CM Relief Fund,"



policy scam.

Justice Neena Bansal Krishan, after hearing Kejriwal got bail in the ED the bail plea, sought a case from the trial court directly approach the High response from the Cen- and was arrested only Court. tral Bureau of Investiga- after that. tion (CBI) and listed the challenging his arrest is relief," the lawyer said. also listed.

Senior tion of triple test is being court." touched

two years.'

Friday issued notice to the accused is a flight risk, CBI on the bail plea filed whether there is appreby Delhi Chief Minister hension of the accused Arvind Kejriwal, who is tampering with the eviin CBI custody in connec- dence, and whether there tion with the alleged liquor is apprehension of accused influencing witnesses.

Singhvi further said

Advocate DP Singh, Advocate appearing for the CBI, who also represented the Abhishek Manu Singhvi, said, "They have chal- Enforcement Directorate, appearing on behalf of the lenged the arrest; it is informed the court that in Delhi Chief Minister, said, already pending here. the ED case, the defence even the remotest allega- should have been the trial pending in the apex court,

The court asked Singhvi in the trial court. Four people have got whether or not they have Court saying that one can has jurisdiction."

The court said "We Singhvi further said

"He is not a proclaimed the high court is already matter for hearing on July offender or terrorist, he seized of the plea challeng-17. when Kejriwal's plea is seeking some interim ing the illegal arrest in the (CBI) case.

Advocate DP Singh, and they have filed for bail

bail in this case. On a filed a bail plea before the sequence was different ing on July 17. normal bail test, which trial court. Singhv replied, there. This is an avoidtest keeps him in jail? He "There are nine judge- ance technique. The law is to CBI custody for three bail until June 1, given the has been arrested after ments of the Supreme clear. My lord (High Court) days on June 26 by vaca- general elections. He sur-

have concurrent jurisdiction. The Apex Court has said don't clog the higher courts when the remedy is available to you. There must be some reason why you come to the High Court directly."

"This is not a case where The first court for bail plea against arrest was court directly without Rouse Avenue court. going to the trial court and Singhvi replied, "The matter was listed for hear-

tion judge Amitabh Rawat, rendered on June 2.

tion judge Sunena Sharma sent Kejriwal to judicial custody for 14 days, as the CBI did not ask for further police custody.

Justice Krishna of the Delhi High Court recently issued notice on Kejriwal's plea challenging the CBI's arrest and three days of

police custody remand. The case is fixed for hearing on July 17.

The CBI had arrested Kejriwal when he was still in Tihar Jail in connection with the ED case.

He was formally arrest-The judge then in his ed inside the court by the order noted that the peti- CBI on June 26 when he tioner has moved the high was produced before the

Kejriwal was first issued a notice to CBI to arrested by the Enforcefile a reply in a week. The ment Directorate (ED) on March 21.

In May, the Supreme Kejriwal was remanded Court granted him interim Summit (EAS) Conference on Maritime Security Cooperation was held in Mumbai on July 4-5, that saw more than 60 participants, including Government officials and experts from think tanks and academia from EAS Cooperation is a signa- ated on a wide range of in attendance.

ments of Australia and 2024-2028. Indonesia.

The ASEAN-India istry of External Affairs, tiative (IPOI) and ASEAN Centre (AIC) at Research Jaideep Mazumdar, deliv- Outlook on the Indo-Pacifand Information System ered the Keynote Address ic (AOIP), Regional Marifor Developing Countries underlining the impor- time Domain Awareness, (RIS) and the National tance of dialogue and Combating illicit maritime Maritime Foundation cooperation for promot- activity, anti-piracy and (NMF) collaborated as ing peace, stability, and IUU fishing, Maritime Con-Knowledge Partners for economic prosperity in nectivity, Humanitarian the Conference, a state- the Indo-Pacific, espe- Assistance and Disaster ment said.

The EAS Conference security cooperation. on Maritime Security

Participating Countries, ture event organised by issues related to efforts India in cooperation with towards securing the mari-The Conference was partners as a commitment time environment in line organised by the Minis- to strengthen ASEAN-led with the open, inclusive, try of External Affairs, EAS mechanism as well as transparent and outward Government of India, in support implementation looking character of the partnership with Govern- of the EAS Plan of Action EAS under six thematic

sessions, including the Secretary (East), Min- Indo-Pacific Oceans Inicially through maritime Relief (HADR) and Search and Rescue (SAR), the

'Defied Constitution', Bengal Guv slams Speaker over oath ceremony of Trinamool MLAs

AGENCIES

KOLKATA, JULY 5

Sayantika Banerjee from Governor's office in West Baranagar and Reyat Hous- Bengal. sen Sarkar -- took a murky

Constitutional provisions. cial session of the Assem-The delay in the oath bly on Friday.

ceremony of Banerjee and However, the Gover-The tussle between West Sarkar, who won the by- nor took strong objection Bengal Governor C.V. elections from Baranagar to the Speaker's act of Ananda Bose and Assem- and Bhagwangola, respec- administering oath to the bly Speaker Biman Ban- tively, had turned into two new Trinamool legisladopadhyay over the oath a bitter bone of conten- tors as he had nominated ceremony of two Trin- tion between the Trin- Deputy Speaker Asish amool Congress MLAs -- amool Congress and the Banerjee for the job.

"The Speaker has defied Constitutional provisions.

The impasse finally What next? A report is turn on Friday after Bose ended after the duo was being sent to the Hon'ble wrote to President Drou- administered oath by President about the Conpadi Murmu accusing Ban-Speaker Bandopadhyay stitutional impropriety of dopadhyay of breaching during the single-day spe- the Speaker in 'administer-



ing' the oath or affirmation which states, "Every of Section 5 of Chapter 2 to the newly elected M member of the Legisla- of the 'Rules of Business' LAs.

done despite the Hon'ble seat, make and subscribe two newly elected MLAs laration according to the shall make and subscribe form set out for the pur- Rules. Can any Rule be an oath or affirmation," pose in the Third Schedread a statement issued by ule." the Governor's office.

In the statement, the Speaker argued that he tution is above any Rule," Governor quoted Article was administering the oath the Governor argued in the 188 of the Constitution abiding by the provisions statement.

tive Assembly or the Leg- of the state Assembly that This Constitutional islative Council of a State allows him to do that when transgression has been shall, before taking his the House is in session. Governor appointing before the Governor or said that no rule can go Deputy Speaker as the some person appointed in beyond the Indian Constiperson before whom the this behalf by him, a dec- tution.

However, the Governor

"Speaker has cited some above the Constitutional provisions? It is a definite Earlier on Friday, the knowledge that the Consti-

Participants deliber- statement said.

INTERNATIONAL

Pakistan: 3 killed, 8 injured in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa blast AGENCIES

ISLAMABAD, JULY 5

At least three people were killed and eight others injured when a blast went off in Pakistan's northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province on Friday, the police said.

The blast took place on a bridge in the Takht-i-Bahi area of Mardan district of the province, killing three people while injuring eight others, including policemen, District Police Officer Mardan Zahoor Babar Afridi told the media.

He said that police officials were the target of the blast as the explosion happened after a police vehicle passed over the bridge, adding that according to a preliminary investigation, an improvised explosive device was planted on the bridge, Xinhua news agency reported.

Rescue teams, police, and security forces immediately reached the site following the blast and shifted the injured to a nearby hospital. The area has been cordoned off while a search operation is underway to arrest the culprits.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack yet.

Earlier on Thursday, five people, including a former member of the Senate, were killed in an explosion in Bajaur district of the province.

Gas leak affects dozens of workers at Kuala Lumpur airport

AGENCIES KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 5

A gas leak at an aircraft engineering facility in Malaysia's Kuala Lumpur International Airport affected 39 people, authorities said on Fridav.

The leak occurred at the aircraft engineering facility separate from the passenger terminals and affected staff from several companies working in the area, the Selangor State Fire Department said in a statement on Thursday.

Those exposed to the gas complained of dizziness, with 14 of them sent to the air disaster unit to receive treatment, while one was hospitalised, it said, adding that there was no wider risk to public safety, Xinhua news agency reported.

The chemical was later identified as methyl mercaptan, added to liquefied petroleum gas as an odorant, coming from an unused tank at the facility, the Fire Department said.

Turkish police detain 45 IS suspects in 16 cities

AGENCIES

ISTANBUL, JULY 5

Turkish police have detained 45 suspected members of the Islamic State (IS) in nationwide operations, Interior Minister Ali Yerlikaya said on Friday.

Yerlikaya did not specify the timeframe for these operations but said they unfolded across 16 cities, including Istanbul, Ankara, Izmir, and others. Authorities seized digital materials, Turkish lira, and foreign currency during raids on the suspects' premises, Xinhua news agency reported.

Turkish police have been regularly conducting counter-terrorism operations against IS members across the country.

Trump calls for 'no holds barred' debate as Biden tries to undo damage from the first

AGENCIES WASHINGTON, JULY 5

Debate, but this time, no Donald Trump, the former holds barred - An all on President and presump- discussion, with just the tive Republican nomi- two of us on stage, talking nee, has called for a "no about the future of our holds barred" debate Country." The second debate is with Joe Biden, the President and the presumptive scheduled for September, Democratic nominee, as according to an arrangethe latter sits down for a ment agreed to by both widely anticipated intersides, in the same format view he is doing to allay as the first - just the two members into panic. concerns about his health candidates and modera-

and ability to serve anoth- tors on the stage, with no er four years following the audience and strictly regudisastrous performance in lated speaking time. the first debate last week.

"I have the answer to the came out unscathed from Crooked Joe Biden Incom- the debate with his many petence Puzzle", Trump half-truths and lies because as a bad night caused by wrote in a post on Truth the incumbent President a sore throat and exhaus-Social, the social media stole all the headlines with tion from recent travels platform he launched to a disastrous performance abroad. He has tried to counter his banishment that sent the Democratic do more public appearfrom erstwhile Twitter, leaders and rank-and-file ances to demonstrate he



Calls for Biden to step aside for someone younger and more capable started within hours and continue despite his and his campaign's attempts to portray the debate performance

is in good health and mentally alert and able. He is doing an interview with an ABC anchor, which will be ing by only 3 percentage nomination in case Presitelecast in its entirety and

unedited Friday evening. Biden has told an ally that his performance in the interview and a few public events over the weekend will be critical in his decision to continue or ing him. It's not surprising, LaCivita and Susie Wiles, quit the race, according to therefore, that he is call- Trump campaign advisers, news reports.

Vice-President Kamala "no holds barred" debate, Harris has emerged as having the edge at this a top contender for the time.

JINDRAH IMAGES JAMMU, JULY 5, 2024 **SATURDAY**

Democratic presidential It was different in 2020. ticket given up by the pres- Trump was widely panned ident, with many Demo- for his performance in cratic leaders naming the first debate, when her as their choice even he had kept interrupting though she has remained Biden and speaking over solidly aligned with Biden, him. Now the roles are affirming her faith in his reversed, and he is the victor of the debate. In a head-to-head

Given the turmoil in the matchup poll, Harris is Democratic party, Trump within striking distance of is prepared to take on the former President, trail- whoever emerges with the dent Biden decides to step Biden's misfortune has aside. "President Trump been Trump's gain. He has will beat any Democrat on widened his lead over the November 5th because he president in polls. In some has a proven record and polls, he has cartwheeled an agenda to Make Amerahead of Biden from trail- ica Great Again," Chris ing for another debate, a have said in a statement.

> Yoon also plans to attend a NATO public

> forum, an event jointly

US, and deliver a speech.

"We will send a strong

Starmer sweeps, Sunak slumps: Five major takeaways from UK elections

The former President

which is now called X.

AGENCIES **NEW DELHI, JULY 5**

It was a rain-soaked day in late May when PM Rishi Sunak came out of his 10 Downing Street residence to announce elections on July 4, and it was another rainy day on Friday when

vatives suffering a major successful outreach. hammering to slump to a

power in which they not of the European Union,

of controversies, frequent evenly matched. leadership changes - 5

PMs in a decade and a how the Labour Party Margaret Thatcher and half! - and major internal will do in power, but the John Major and 14 years divisions.Presiding over course and results of the (2010-24) under Cameron, a decade or more of eco- elections throw up certain Theresa May, Boris Johnnomic stagnation and instructive points though son, Liz Truss, and Sunak, social neglect - since PM it is debatable if they are against 13 for Labour David Cameron's austerity long-term in nature or (1997-2010) under Blair programme and the impli- linked to this particular and Gordon Brown. cations of Brexit - also led electoral cycle.



he came out to concede Keir Starmer, to provide quences of Covid were defeat, with his Conser- a cogent programme and challenging for all gov-

It won 412 seats - just new parliamentary low-at a shade under the 419 less than a fifth of the total garnered by Tony Blair seats. The crushing defeat in 1997 to end 18 years for the Conservative Party of Conservative rule, but follows 14 eventful years in equal to his haul in 2001. Time will show whether

only led the country out the result was actually a Labour victory or a Conweathered the Covid servative defeat, though pandemic, and sought to it must be considered fashion a new position for that the loathing for the the country in the world present dispensation and beyond continental ties, enthusiasm for the avail- servatives were in power but also suffered a string able alternative are not for 32 years - in two con-

It also has to be seen

ernments, but Cameron's austerity programme and the lowered social spending it entailed, and then, Brexit were choices. By the time Sunak promised

the country was turning

the corner, the damage

had been done. The course of British political history for the past four and a half decades is instructive. Of these 45 years, the Consecutive tranches of 18 years (1979-1997) under

South Korean President to travel to US next week for NATO summit, Indo-Pacific Command visit

AGENCIES SEOUL, JULY 5

South Korean President underway in Hawaii since to expand security coop-Yoon Suk Yeol will travel late June, involving 29 eration in response to to the US next week to countries, including South deepening military ties attend the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Indo-Pacific Command in Hawaii, his office said on Friday.

cooperation between the National Security Adviser Kim Tae-hyo said.

Ahead of the summit, on Monday and Tuesday ic Command to receive to Kim. a security briefing and Yonhap news agency.

The US-led joint mari- way meeting with leaders time exercise, Rim of the from Indo-Pacific partner Pacific Exercise, has been nations to discuss ways between Russia and North

South Korea was invited Korea. as one of the non-NATO partners in the Indo-Pacif- hosted by NATO and think ic region, which includes tanks in Europe and the

region, Principal Deputy from the Czech Repub-Norway, as well as NATO

Korea.

candidacy.

points.

(NATO) summit in Wash- to the NATO summit for ington and visit the US the third consecutive year Yoon will visit Wash- Japan, Australia and New ington from Wednesday Zealand. Yoon attended

NATO leaders and discuss mits held in Spain in 2022 military cooperation between Russia and North On June 10, Yoon will Korea and discuss ways to enhance cooperation ance and the Indo-Pacific talks with his counterparts among NATO allies and Indo-Pacific partners," lic, Sweden, Finland and Kim said in a briefing. While a trilateral Secretary General Jens summit between South Yoon will stop in Hawaii Stoltenberg, with talks Korea, the US and Japan underway to arrange addi- has not yet been arranged,

sibilities" for their gath-

to Thursday to meet with two previous NATO sum- message regarding the the war in Ukraine and and Lithuania in 2023. transatlantic security alli- have a series of bilateral

to visit the US Indo-Pacif- tional meetings, according Seoul is open to "all pos-

The next day, he is ering on the sidelines of encourage the personnel scheduled to join a ses- the NATO summit, a at the command, reports sion of NATO allies and senior presidential official partners and hold a four- said.

The Turkish government designated IS as a terrorist organisation in 2013, blaming it for a spate of deadly attacks in the country since 2015, including a January attack on a Roman Catholic church in Istanbul that killed one person.

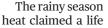
Turkey's southern border with Syria has been a major transit route for Syrians and foreign fighters since the Syrian civil war began in 2011.

Japan reports surging heatstroke cases as mercury continues to soar

AGENCIES

TOKYO, JULY 5

As Japan faces an intense summer heatwave, surging numbers of heatstroke cases have been reported from across the country.



in the southwestern Japanese prefecture of Oita, where a 90-year-old woman collapsed while working on her farm on Thursday afternoon and was pronounced dead due to heatstroke despite being taken to a nearby hospital, according to the local police.

As of 3 p.m. local time Friday, some 55 people in Tokyo, aged 23 to 90, were rushed to hospitals with suspected heatstroke, according to the Tokyo Fire Department, after the previous day saw a single-day record of 99 people taken to hospital due to the illness, Xinhua news agency reported.

Two men in their 70s were in serious condition, with nearly 80 per cent of the patients being over 60 years old. On Friday, the mercury rose above 35 degrees Celsius by mid-morning in many areas, with the temperature exceeding 36 degrees Celcius in Tokyo. Heatwave conditions were reported at over 140 locations nationwide during the day, doubling the number from the previous day.

The Japan Meteorological Agency has issued warnings as temperatures continue to soar, and the heatstroke alert remains in effect across 21 prefectures

Authorities urged residents to avoid direct sunlight, take frequent breaks, hydrate regularly, and stay cool to prevent heatstroke during the extreme heat

to the outcome. Meanwhile, the Labour sided over a decade and for public perception Party, reeling from a string more of economic morass crept in, as admitted by of defeats after its own 13 where not only incomes a string of senior Conseryears in power and a pro- remained stagnant amid vative leaders, many who nounced leftward slant rising inflation, leading lost their seats, that they under Jeremy Corbyn, to standards of living dip- had grown distant from reformed and revitalised ping, but productivity the people and failed to itself under former gov- declined too. ernment law officer, Sir

It is evident that com-

The Conservatives pre- placency and a disregard respect and respond to

Granted the conse- the concerns.

French President

One killed, 15 injured in road crash in Afghanistan

AGENCIES KABUL, JULY 5

One commuter lost his life and 15 others were injured as a mini-bus turned turtle in west Afghanistan's Herat province, a local official said on Friday.

Rahmani said that the vehicle carrying 16 looking traffic rules, lack of safety meapassengers was heading towards Koshki sures, overloading vehicles during travels Rubat Sangi district when it diverted from and carelessness of drivers, according to the road and overturned on Thursday eve- Afghans, are the main reasons for deadly ning, leaving one dead on the spot and road accidents in Afghanistan.

injuring 15 others, some in critical condition, reported Xinhua news agency.

A similar accident claimed two lives and injured three others in the northern Badakhshan province after a car plunged into a ravine due to reckless driving on Wednesday. Ramshackle highways, driv-Deputy District Chief Abdul Rahim ing old vehicles on congested roads, over-

World leaders congratulate Keir Starmer on 'historic' UK election win

AGENCIES NEW DELHI, JULY 5

general election.

Party's governance.

on X.

Emmanuel Macron con-Several top world leadgratulated Starmer on ers, including Prime Minhis election victory and ister Narendra Modi, on emphasised maintaining Friday congratulated Keir close bilateral relations Starmer as he gets ready between the two neighto become the 58th Prime bouring countries. Minister of Britain follow-"Congratulations, Sir

ing the Labour Party's Keir Starmer, on your resounding victory in the victory. Pleased with our first discussion. We will

Starmer has been credit- continue the work begun ed with pulling the Labour with the UK for our bilater-Party out of the political al cooperation, for peace Minister, I look forward challenges and strengthen wilderness by ending 14 and security in Europe, for the climate, and for AI," he years of the Conservative said in a post on X.

"Heartiest congratu-Israeli President Isaac lations and best wishes Herzog also congratulated to Keir Starmer on the Starmer while at the same remarkable victory in time expressing his "deepthe UK general elections. est appreciation and grati-I look forward to our tude" to outgoing MP Rishi positive and constructive Sunak for "his leadership collaboration to further and for standing with the strengthen the India-UK Israeli people", especially during the "most difficult Comprehensive Strategic period". Partnership in all areas,

fostering mutual growth "I send my warmest conand prosperity," PM Modi gratulations to Keir Starmsaid in his message posted



European Council President Charles Michel also congratulated Starmer in a post on X.

all areas of mutual interest for our citizens. I look ward to working with you forward to seeing Starmer tional order." er. As he prepares to enter in a constructive partner- at the European Political

common challenges.

stressing the need to work added. closely to bring about a "major reset" of Anglo-Irish relations.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky also extended his best wishes to Starmer on his election

win. eral relations between the tanks, Storm Shadow mis-"The European Union two countries, Zelenskyy and the UK are crucial said, "Ukraine and the pilots, and the first bilatpartners, cooperating in United Kingdom have eral security cooperation been and will continue to agreement are just a few of be reliable allies through our shared achievements European Commission forward to working with thick and thin. We will that Ukraine will never President Ursula von der you and your govern- continue to defend and forget. Thank you, Rishi," ment in this new cycle advance our common Zelenskyy said in another tions Keir Starmer on your for the UK," said Michel, values of life, freedom, post on X. electoral victory. I look for- adding that he is looking and a rules-based interna-

Downing Street as Prime ship to address common Community meeting on government every success in a post on X.

both in domestic affairs Simon Harris, Prime and in solidifying the UK's Minister of Ireland, high- leadership on the world lighted the close relation- stage. I look forward to ship with the UK, calling it working closely together "deep and consequential". on strengthening the "I look forward to it Ukraine-UK partnership going from strength to and restoring internationstrength," he said while al peace and security," he

> He also thanked Rishi Sunak for maintaining close ties between the two nations.

"I am grateful to my good friend Rishi Sunak for the UK government's steadfast support under Stressing the close bilat- his leadership. Challenger siles, F-16 training for our

New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon, "I wish the incoming too, extended his wishes

him and his new government to bring our hostages home, to build a better future for the region,

and to deepen the close Herzog said.

to working together with European security.'

friendship between Israel and the United Kingdom," Congratulating Starmer,

Leyen wrote: "Congratula-



AGENCIES NEW DELHI, JULY 5

India saw 501 deals valued deals by the Adani Group at \$21.4 billion in the April- in the industrial materials June period -- highest and ports sectors, which quarterly volumes since accounted for 52 per cent Q2 2022 -- as an antici- of the total M&A values for pated policy clarity from the quarter. the upcoming budget and

political stability is expect- FY25 featured one billioned to boost investor confi- dollar deal and 30 highdence and drive deal activ- value deals (over \$100 ity in the next six months, million), marking a 58 per

\$14.9 billion which is a 9 dollar deals. per cent increase in vol-

Grant Thornton Bharat ity and large domestic Bharat.

Dealtracker.

JINDRAH IMAGES JAMMU, JULY 6 2024 SATURDAY

> This surge was largely due to four high-value

The second quarter of a report showed on Friday. cent increase in high-value deals. Mergers and acquisi- deals compared to the pretions (M&A) and private vious quarter, which had cross-border deals due

"The quarter witnessed Shanthi Vijetha, Partner, umes, according to the robust private equity activ- Growth, Grant Thornton entering its third term increase in value since Q1 increase in values over Q1



Traditional sectors like Despite a decline in pharma and manufacturing also saw strong deal equity (PE) deals together only 19 high-value deals to geopolitical uncertain-flows, collectively contribstood at 467, valued at including three billion- ties, domestic investment uting nearly half of the billion, marking a 9 per ity despite a 7 per cent remained strong," said deal values.

after the recent elections, 2024.

the industry anticipates policy continuity, which institutional placements should positively drive (QIPs) at \$2.3 billion, the deal activity," Vijetha added.

local investment climate. M&A activity in Q2 2024

saw 132 deals worth \$6.2 increase in volumes. In Q2 2024, the PE size since Q2 2022.

landscape saw significant growth, recording 335 deals totaling \$8.7 cent increase in volume "With the government and a notable 55 per cent showcasing an 18 per cent

There were 20 qualified showing an increase in both values and volumes

Indian corporates are over the previous quarter, increasingly investing with volumes marking domestically, reflecting the second highest since strong confidence in the Q4 2017, the report mentioned.

As for IPOs, there were 14 IPOs worth \$4.2 billion billion, marking a slight in Q2 2024, representing the highest quarterly IPO

Retail and consumer sector emerged as a dominant force in deal activdecrease in volumes, 2024

Securitisation volumes in India reach Rs 45,000 crore in Q1 FY25: Report

set of loans and passes on

the future receivables to another financier against

"The securitisation

Reserve Bank of India,"

an upfront payment.

AGENCIES NEW DELHI, JULY 5

The overall securitisation volumes stood at Rs 45,000 crore in the first market volumes have not quarter of the current seen a major uptick in Q1 fiscal (FY25), down 20 per as overall disbursement cent from the same period growth in the NBFC sector last year, largely due to has moderated, especially the exit of a large housing in the unsecured lendfinance company (HFC) in ing space, following the 2023, a report showed on cautionary advice of the Friday.

Excluding the HFC, the said Abhishek Dafria, SVP securitisation volumes and Group Head, Strucremained largely flat on a tured Finance Ratings, at year-on-year (YoY) basis, ICRA. according to the ICRA.

However, the securitisa-It estimated securitisa- tion market continues to tion volumes to pick up in widen with new originathe subsequent quarters tors, even from the bankand cross Rs 2 trillion for ing sector, raising funds FY2025. through this route in the Securitisation is a pro- quarter, which bodes well

cess whereby one lender for the industry's longbunches up a loan or a term growth.

India prepares for 5G/6G technology; to host Hackathon in September

AGENCIES

NEW DELHI, JULY 5

Taking a lead to usher in the next generation of telecom services, India will host the "5G/6G and Emerging Technologies Hackathon" in September alongside the "WTSA24 (World Telecommunication Standardisation Assembly) Outreach Sessions".

The initiative aims to tors, industry leaders, and It is one of the three world an official statement said.

prestigious Nations system. The WTSA2024 will be held in New Delhi from 15th - 24th otal role in setting global Mobile Congress (IMC Oct 2024, marking a significant step towards the dards, making India's host- October 15 to 19, 2024. advancements of 5G and ing of the WTSA a signifi- This year, the focus will be 6G networks.

cant milestone.

It also marks the coun-



bring together innova- dardisation Sector (ITU-T). sivity in the sector.

Also, a Hackathon prior academics to explore the conferences organized by to the event will further frontiers of next-genera- the International Telecom- provide a platform to tion telecom technologies, munication Union, an developers to showcase entity within the United different solutions.

Additionally, the DoT This event plays a piv- will organize the Indian telecommunication stan- 2024), scheduled from on Artificial Intelligence,

The WTSA 2024, will Quantum technology and in the global technology related initiatives such as with spotlight on 6G, 5G a quadrennial event and ference, ITU exhibitions, and edge computing, IoT, munication Union) Stan- course and promote inclu- turing, the DoT said in the stated.

statement Aligned with the Asia's

largest technology forum, the Indian Mobile Congress (IMC) 2024, the hackathon will serve as a hub for cutting-edge innovation in telecommunications. Focused on advancing technologies like 5G and 6G, the event will attract participants from industry, academia, and startups, all aiming to showcase pioneering solutions. During the 30-hour event, held in dedicated 5G labs in Delhi, Hyderabad, and Bengaluru, participants will collaborate in a dynamic environment to develop their ideas. The hackathon aims to foster creativity and teamwork, culminating in the selection of winners who will present their innovations at IMC 2024. The Telecom Center

try's growing importance be accompanied by other Circular Economy along of Excellence (TCoE) has issued a Request for landscape. The WTSA is the ITU Kaleidoscope con-use-case showcase, cloud Proposal (RFP) aimed at soliciting applications for serves as the governing Network of Women and semiconductors, cyberse- organising "5G/6G Hackconference of the ITU AI for Good in October curity, green tech, satcom athon" and "WTSA Aware-(International Telecom- this year to enrich the dis- and electronics manufac- ness Sessions", the DoT

Mobile tariff hike: Cong blames govt for Rs 34,824 cr burden on public

AGENCIES NEW DELHI, JULY 5

The Congress on Friday accused the government for allowing private telecom operators - Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea, to increase mobile tariffs within days after the general elections were over, a move that would put a financial burden of whopping Rs 34,824 crore per annum

on the general public. Two things stand out - Firstly, the date of announcement of increase of tariffs, appears to be clearly in consultation with each other by the

three Private Cell Phone Companies. Secondly, the date of effective implementation of increased tariffs is the same, Congress General Secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala conference at the AICC headquarters here. Effective 03.07.2024,

the three private cell- Government. phone companies have



These three private cell- India) abdicated their duty phone companies have a and responsibility towards market share of 91.6 per 109 Crore Cellphone cent, or 109 Crore cell- users?" Surjewala said. Last week the mobile

phone users out of a total of 119 Crore cellphone tariffs were increased users as on 31.12.2023, he by an average of 15 per added Accusing the Govern- by Airtel and Vodafone

ment of pursuing the Idea. same "Crony Capitalism" the Congress said that the Modi government must ducted a study on need increased its charges from answer that how can pri- of CAPEX or impact on 11 per cent to 21 per cent. vate cellphone companies profitability by purchase The average increase is 15 be permitted to "unilater- of spectrum through said addressing a press ally increase" Cellphone auction after taking into tariffs by Rs 34,824 crore account the previous set effective 4th July 2024 annually without any over- of concessions on AGR (announced on 29th June, sight and regulation by the payable under Telecom 2024), Vodafone Idea also

"Has the Modi Govern- "Spectrum Auction Install- per cent to 24 per cent. increased their tariffs by ment and TRAI (Telecom ments" by Modi 2.0 on The average increase is 16 an average of 15 per cent. Regulatory Authority of 20.11.2019 or other related per cent.

factors, he said.

Cell phone market in India is an 'Oligopoly' with Reliance Jio having maximum 48 Crore Users, Airtel 39 Crore Users and Vodafone Idea has 22.37 Crore. Out of these, Jio and Airtel have a customer base of 87 Crore making them a virtual "Duopoly".

Effective 3rd July 2024 (announced on 27th June, 2024), Reliance Jio has increased the tariff ranging from 12 per cent to 27 per cent (its most popular and affordable plan was increased by 22 per cent i.e. Rs. 155 to Rs. 189 per month) The average increase is 20 per cent. Similarly, effective 3rd The government or July 2024 (announced on 28th June, 2024) Airtel has per cent.

Following them, Policy, 1999 or deferring of increased tariffs from 10

BUSINESS

Conformity to BIS Mandatory for Stainless Steel & Aluminium Utensils

AGENCIES

NEW DELHI, JUL 5

In a move that would said. enhance kitchen safety ernment has mandated step towards ensuring for these utensils.

ity Control Order issued quality criteria. by the Department for Promotion of Industry and ous testing and certificautensils. Non-compliance built to last. is "punishable", empha-

commitment to consumer standards covering essensafety and product integ- tial kitchen items. These rity, an official statement standards reflect the BIS's commitment to ensuring

The BIS's stringent stan- that all kitchen utensils and quality while using dards for stainless steel meet stringent criteria and stainless steel and alu- and aluminium utensils adhere to the quality and minium utensils, the Gov-represent a significant safety benchmarks.

By introducing these conformity to the Bureau that kitchenware used in standards, the BIS aims of Indian Standards (BIS) homes and professional to uphold cultural diversettings across India meets sity in culinary practices According to the Qual- the highest safety and while promoting superior product performance and

By implementing rigor- consumer safety. Internal Trade (DPIIT), tion processes, the BIS have long been favoured enhanced corrosion resis-Ministry of Commerce helps protect consumers in kitchens worldwide tance and robust mechaniand Industry, in March this from substandard prod- for their durability, ver- cal properties. year, the ISI mark would ucts and ensures that uten- satility, and sleek appearbe compulsory for such sils are both safe to use and ance. Comprising an alloy fied these attributes in sition of materials used in

Recently, the BIS has and other metals such 14756:2022, which speci- uniformity and practicality sising the government's developed a range of as nickel, molybdenum, fies the requirements for in utensil design; Mandat-

The BIS has codi- Ensuring the safe compo-

and manganese, stainless various types of utensils Stainless steel utensils steel is renowned for its used in cooking, serving, dining, and storage.

The IS 14756:2022 standard encompasses --

of steel with chromium the Indian Standard IS manufacturing; Providing

ing high-quality craftsman- wrought and cast alumini- Standard Mark. ship and aesthetic appeal; um utensils up to 30 litres Including tests like the in capacity including hard date are subject to legal staining test, mechanical anodized and non-stick penalties, reinforcing the shock test, thermal shock unreinforced plastic coat- importance of compliance test, dry heat test, coating ing. This standard ensures in safeguarding public thickness test, nominal that aluminium utensils health and maintaining capacity test, flame stabil- meet the highest material trust in kitchenware prodity test, and specific tests quality and performance ucts. for utensils with tempered standards. glass lids.

are another cornerstone to the mandatory certifi- to best practices in proof both household and cation as per the Qual- duction, leading to overprofessional kitchens, ity Control Order dated all improvements in the valued for their light- of March this year. This industry. The BIS Standard weight nature, excellent ensures that no person Mark serves as a reliable heat conductivity, afford- can manufacture, import, indicator of quality, guidability, and durability.

the Indian Standard IS any aluminium utensils tering a culture of excel-1660:2024, which out- that do not meet the BIS lence and safety in kitchenlines the specifications for standards and bear the BIS ware, the statement said.

cent first by Jio, followed

TRAI should have con-

Violations of this man-

These measures Similar to stainless enhance consumer con-Whereas for the alu- steel utensils, aluminium fidence and encourage minium utensils, which utensils are also subjected manufacturers to adhere sell, distribute, store, hire, ing consumers in making The BIS has developed lease, or exhibit for sale informed choices and fos-

Women entrepreneurs get shot in the arm with more avenues for finance

AGENCIES

Mumbai, July 5

Financing Women Collaborative to offer more tailored products Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) on Friday announced new collaborations to support women entrepreneurs by strengthening their access to finance at a workshop held here.

Principal Economic Adviser, NITI to strengthen the credit readiness Aayog, launched several initiatives

announcement of a partnership

mechanisms and work with banks announced.

(FWC), an initiative of Women for women entrepreneurs in Maharashtra.

WEP and GroW Network founded a panel discussion titled "Acceler- partnership in 2022. WEP aims to by AfD, SIDBI, and Shakti Sustain- ating women's access to finance: strengthen India's women entreable Energy Foundation; launch of Unlocking the potential of the preneurship ecosystem. the "Seher" program by TU CIBIL women-led economy for achiev-As part of the workshop, Anna and launch of the Shine program ing Vision 2047." The meeting was system stakeholders across gov-Roy, Mission Director, WEP and in partnership with CreditEnable organised by WEP in partnership ernment, business, philanthropy, of women-led enterprises were and MicroSave Consulting (MSC). converge, and align their initiaother initiatives announced to Key highlights included the benefit women entrepreneurs.

between MAVIM and MSC under commitment to reaching out of MSME, SIDBI, public-sector preneurs.

FWC to improve access to finance to more women entrepreneurs banks, private-sector financial through alternative credit rating as a member of FWC was also

The event included an engaging attended the workshop. session exploring "Perspectives on encouraging banks to finance in 2018 as an aggregator platform, An MoU exchange between women beyond SHG groups" and transitioned into a public-private with TransUnion CIBIL (TU CIBIL) and civil society to collaborate, Key dignitaries included senior tives towards scalable, sustainable officials from NITI Aayog, RBI, the and effective programs, enabling Additionally, SEWA Bank's Ministry of Finance, the Ministry a larger impact for women entre-

institutions, CSOs/NGOs, and women entrepreneurs who

WEP, incubated in NITI Aayog

It provides a forum for all eco-

Centre notifies new Telecommunications Act provisions, focuses on spectrum utilisation

The government on Friday notified another set of munications Act 2023, that came into effect with immediate effect.

One major aspect that is various modes of achiev-

ary assignment, sharing/ cient utilisation of scarce trading etc, the Ministry of spectrum through pro-Communications said in a cesses such as secondary statement.

The government issued ing, leasing and surrender sections of the Telecom- a notification for enforcing of spectrum," the ministry Sections 6-8, 48 and 59(b) said. of the Telecommunica-

tions Act. 2023 with immediate in a flexible, liberalised being covered in the latest effect. The salient features and technologically neunotification is the focus of of the sections that have tral manner, along with the Central government been brought into force empowering the govon increasing efficiency in include optimal utilisation ernment to establish an

ing the same like second- legal framework for effi- purpose.

assignment, sharing, trad-

It also enables the utilisation of spectrum enforcement and moni-"The Act provides a toring mechanism for the

AGENCIES NEW DELHI, JULY 7

spectrum utilisation and of spectrum.

SPORTS

Enter gen-next: New look India start their journey without Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma against Zimbabwe

AGENCIES HARARE, JULY 5

and Virat Kohli, hoping to who has given ample demthe future in a five-match ties as a competent T20 Even as the euphoria of

Shubman Gill, who was a the shortest format, their starts. reserve in that squad, will with a bunch of IPL per- to be felt more strongly. formers.

the series scheduled to be the order of nature, the old

babwean capital. the new one.

Zimbabwe certainly isn't Two young men, who are lined for debut could the most formidable oppo-A new-look Indian T20 be Punjab's Abhishek sition but in T20 format, team would embark on a Sharma, who had a stu- the gulf between sides is journey of self-discovery pendous IPL for Sunrisers comparatively lesser than without their constant Hyderabad and the young the other two traditional talismans, Rohit Sharma Assamese lad Riyan Parag, forms of the game.

The hosts, led by the unearth their mainstays for onstration of his capabili- gutsy Sikandar Raza, who played for Punjab Kings series against Zimbabwe batter. Both of them tick all in the IPL recently, could starting here on Saturday. the boxes for this format. prove to be a handful on sweeps through the length have skipped a lot of bilat- the ball will jag around and breadth of India, eral series, especially in during the afternoon

international retirement Some solid performanc- their mettle. hit a refresh button along from the format is bound es in this series will keep The skills and quality tention for future when Hardik Pandya, his likely expected to open, one or Dhruv Jurel will bat at All the fresh faces are that the two modern greats the first team players of deputy Suryakumar Yadav, needs to see whether his number six while donning expected to make their brought to the table will be the world champion side Rishabh Pant, Axar Patel, best friend Abhishek gets the big gloves. international debut during hard to replicate but as it is are back on national duty. Arshdeep Singh and Kul- his maiden India cap or the played entirely in the Zim- guard has to make way for Samson, and Yashasvi back playing the format. captain of the Asian Games the second keeper behind play all games.

young men would only get

In future, the likes of shortest format. these youngsters in con- T20 captain-in-waiting

While over the past few nippy afternoons at the Jaiswal will be available There won't be too many T20 World Cup triumph years, Rohit and Kohli Harare Sports Club where from the third match vacancies in the playing onwards and some of the eleven. From now till the 2026 T20 World Cup in a couple of games to prove India, the national team will play 34 games in the

While skipper Gill is one among Jitesh Sharma willow.

gold medal-winning team Sanju Samson for this Ruturaj Gaikwad ends up series and Jitesh was a late being the chosen one.

In case Abhishek opens, unavailability of the World Gaikwad could come in Cup squad members. at number three or swap positions with the Punjab an impressive Test debut Parag, Washington Sundar, southpaw. Parag's chanc- against England is likely Ravi Bishnoi, Avesh es of a debut are brighter play in the first two games Khan, Khaleel Ahmed, compared to Abhishek before Samson arrives. as he can bat at num in the first match, a slot he ment, Avesh Khan and san, Jitesh Sharma (wk), made his own for the Khaleel Ahmed, the two Harshit Rana. standbys during the T20

Rovals. Rinku Singh, the designated finisher of the and Mukesh Kumar, who is Akram, Brian Bennett, Indian T20 team for years a very steady death bowler Johnathan Campbell, to come, is expected to could be the third seamer Tendai Chatara, Luke arrive at number five in this new look line-up while

If one looks at selec- arrives while leg-spinner bani, Dion Myers, Antum Shivam Dube, Sanju deep Yadav will also be seasoned CSK skipper and tion pattern, Jurel was Ravi Bishnoi is expected to Naqvi, Richard Ngarava,

Squads

JINDRAH IMAGES

JAMMU, JULY 6, 2024 SATURDAY

India (first 2 games): entrant because of the Shubman Gill ©, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Abhishek Sharma, Rinku Singh, Hence Jurel, who made Dhruv Jurel (wk), Riyan

Mukesh Kumar, Tushar In the bowling depart- Deshpande, Sai Sudhar-

Zimbabwe: Sikandar World Cup are certainties Raza (captain), Faraz pipping Harshit Rana, who Jongwe, Innocent Kaia, is a better slogger with the Clive Madande, Wessly Madhevere, Tadiwan-Washington Sundar ashe Marumani, Wellingwith his all-round abilities ton Masakadza, Brandon will hold his place till Dube Mayuta, Blessing Muzara-Milton Shumba.

Jr Women, Men North Zone Hockey: Haryana, Delhi win their matches on Day 5

AGENCIES

JHANSI (UTTAR PRADESH), JULY 5

Hockey Haryana and Delhi Hockey in their respective women's fixtures while Hockey Haryana emerged victorious in the men's fixtures on Day 5 of the 2nd Hockey India Junior Women and Men North Zone Championship 2024 held here on Friday.

In an early morning women's encounter, Shashi Khasa scored 13 goals as Hockey Haryana for Haryana.

of the net repeatedly (31', Hockey Uttarakhand. Malik (26'), Ritika Mann Delhi Hockey (30'), Aditi (45'), Vanshika



Delhi beat Uttarakhand 8-3. Sunil (17', 21', 45') The second women's and Vinay (7', 44') led the fixture of the day saw attack for Haryana along thrashed Hockey Jammu Delhi Hockey defeat with goals from Rohit (16'), & Kashmir 30-0. Khasa Hockey Uttarakhand 6-3. Kuldeep (41') and Happy scored in the 6', 6', 7', 12', Despite trailing early in (51'). Delhi Hockey's late 13', 17', 28', 33', 37', 39', the first quarter, Delhi thrust saw goals from 42', 44', 49' and orches- secured the victory with Rahul (51'), Naitik Rana (5') trated the massive victory goals from Nisha (33', 50'), and Captain Afridi (59'). Nishu Rana (7'), Subham In a late evening Priyanka (9', 10', 22', (15'), Sunaina (27'), and encounter on Thurs-23'), Diksha (35', 47', Anshika (36'). Raeen Keh- day, Hockey Chandigarh 51'), Ravina (2', 20'), and kasha Ali (4', 57') and Aarti routed Hockey Punjab Seema also found the back (48') were the scorers for 2-0. Gurjeet Singh (18') gave Hockey Punjab 41'), while Ritika (3'), Pooja Hockey Haryana down the lead in the second

quarter, and Misbah Khan In a crucial men's (44') doubled it soon

Atiqa Mir, 9, only Asian karter shortlisted for Iron Dames new Young Talents Initiative

AGENCIES NEW DELHI, JULY 5

Atiqa Mir, the 9-year-old racing sensation who is the fastest Indian girl on fourwheels, has been shortlisted for the first-ever selection process of the cult Switzerland-based allwomen motorsports team Iron Dames's new Young Talents initiative. The initiative aims to identify and develop young female kart racers between the ages of eight and 13, who dream of a career in motorsport.

The date for the first selection round has been fixed for July 29-30 in Franciacorta, Italy. Atiqa is the only Asian karter and also the youngest to be shortlisted among 11 girls 2023. The Young Talents a driver. I will work hard from all around the world. initiative will represent the and prepare myself better The Iron Dames next generation of female than ever to come out on

ries and breakthroughs stables. at the pinnacle of World Endurance Racing, includ- be shortlisted for the Iron



ance Championship in and improve my skills as

"I'm truly honoured to Atiga. ing becoming the first all- Dames Young Talent selec- a long list of applicants wish her the very best for MSPORT in Round 2 at

meticulously reviewed by Clubs of India. the Iron Dames detection and the strength of their career aspirations.

Iron Dames project.

ing events, which include IAME UAE National Viceparameters like their driv- Champion and also has ing skills, commitment, multiple victories and work ethic, and ability to titles to her name in difreflect the Iron Dames' ferent parts of the world. values and attitude.

"Atiga is a regular par- in the MECO RMC Indian ticipant in our MECO National Karting Chamachieved historic victo- racing stars from their top in the selections and FMSCI National Karting pionship and finished make India proud," said Championship -- Rotax Runner-up in Round 1. Max. We congratulate her Atiqa will be in India again Atiqa was selected from on this achievement and this weekend driving for

Football: Punjab FC announce signing of

midfielder Vinit Rai, goalkeeper Muheet

based on various param- retary General of the Fedeters. Each entry was eration of Motor Sports

The evaluation will be cell, which assessed the conducted with the supcandidates based on their port of experts from the passion, determination, Italy-based PREMA Racing motorsport background, motorsport team. Exceptional talents discovered through this process will The selected partici- have the opportunity to pants represent a diverse join the Iron Dames family, range of nationalities, benefiting from personalreflecting the global reach ized development proand inclusive spirit of the grammes, mentorship from seasoned motorsport All the shortlisted can- professionals, and access didates will be evaluated to top-tier training facilithrough rigorous scout- ties. Atiqa is the reigning

Atiga recently competed

tributed a goal each.

defeated Delhi Hockey victory.

(57') and Sakshi (60') con- quarter, Hockey Haryana after to complete the female team to win a race tion process. It motivates from all over the world the selection rounds," said MECO Kartopia Track in in the FIA World Endur- me further to perform who were shortlisted V.S Shrikant, Deputy Sec- Bengaluru.

1st T2OI: Jemimah's unbeaten fifty goes in vain as India Women lose to South Africa by 12 runs

AGENCIES

CHENNAI, JULY 5

After dominating the ODI series and one-off Test, the Indian women's cricket team went down to South Africa by 12 runs in the first T20I of the threematch series at the M.A Chidambaram Stadium here on Friday. In a lowscoring encounter, South Africa rode on half-centuries by Tazmin Brits (81 off 56 balls) and Marizanne Kapp (57 off 33 balls) to post 189/4 in 20 overs. The Indian women tried to stem the run flow with twin-wicket hauls each by Pooja Vastrakar (2-23) and Radha Yadav (2-40).

However, chasing 190, the Indians fell short narrowly despite Jamimah Rodrigues hammering 53 not out off 30 balls towards the end of the innings. India Women could manage only 177/4 in 20 overs to fall short by 12 runs.

Electing to field first, the Indian team struggled 4x3, 6x2) and Tazmin Brits turbed. raised 50 runs for the



got a slower one through into three figures. They for the first breakthrough the defenses of Wolvaardt, were also helped by the as South Africa skipper who played across the line Indians dropping a few Laura Wolvaardt (33, 22b, and had her stumps dis- chances.

the partnership when she wicket, taking the score lowed suit soon, complet- enough in the end. The by 12 runs.

aries and one six.

off to a good start with the penultimate over. in-form Shafali Verma and Jafta off Ayabonga Khaka.

Mandhana scored 46 off 30 balls (4x7, 6x2) while skipper Harmanafter Dayalan Hemalatha could manage only 14 off 17 balls as the Indian team struggled to keep pace with the mounting run rate. Jamimah Rodrigues blasted seven boundaries and one six as she shored 29 balls.

Brits completed her Brits and Kapp then half-century off 40 balls, added 90 runs for the hana 46, Harmanpreet opening wicket partner- came together for a 96-run hitting seven boundaries fourth wicket partnership, Kaur 35; Chloe Tryon 1-32, ship. Radha Yadav broke partnership for the second and one six. Kapp also fol- but that did not prove Nonkululeko Mlaba 1-32)

ing her fifty off 30 balls, Indians needed 38 runs studded with eight bound- from the last 12 deliveries and Jamimah struck Khaka Kapp was the next to for successive boundarfall, claimed by Radha ies off the first two balls. Yadav when she had the She took a single off the former South Africa cap- next ball as Khaka sprays tain slicing one to Asha it wide and Harmanpreet Sobhana at short-third. also could score a single Chloe Tryon (12) and Brits off the next delivery. A added 38 runs for the third double followed by a six wicket as South Africa by Jemimah reduced the posted a challenging 189/4. target to 21 off the last six In reply, the Indians got balls, as 16 came off the

Harmanpreet struck Smriti Mandhana raising a four off the first ball by 56 runs for the first wicket Nonkululeko Mlaba but in the Power-play. Shafali the Indians could manage (18 off 14 balls) was out in only eight runs off the the last over of the Power- over as their skipper got play, caught by keeper stumped off the final delivery of the match.

Both teams combined produced 366 runs in this match, making it the preet struck 35 off 29 balls highest match aggregate involving India vs South Africa women's T20Is. Brief scores:

South Africa Women 189/4 in 20 overs (Tazmin Brits 81, Marizanne Kapp 57, Laura Wolvaardt 33; Pooja Vastrakar 2-23, up the scoring rate, com- Radha Yadav 2-40) beat pleting her half-century off India Women 177/4 in 20 overs (Jamimah Rodrigues She and Harmanpreet 53 not out, Smriti Mand-

AGENCIES

MOHALI, JULY 5

Punjab FC have announced the signing of midfielder Vinit Rai and goalkeeper Muheet Shabir ahead of the upcoming 2024-25 season. The Indian international Vinit Rai last played for Indian Super League (ISL) Cup winners Mumbai City FC while Muheet played for I-League side Real Kashmir FC.

The 26-year-old Assamborn Vinit graduated from the Tata Football Academy before signing for Dempo FC in Goa. He was signed by Kerala Blasters ahead of the 2016-17 ISL season and then joined Odisha FC in 2017. He made 68 appearances for the team, scoring once and captaining the side.

He later joined Mumbai City FC on loan in the 2022 the ISL from I-League. season and was signed permanently in the next season. Vinit also has side, making his debut in 2018.

mental in linking the play with the J&K Sports Coun- will add weight to the the forward lines and later signed for Kerala ing young goalkeeper who possesses a wide range of Blasters. He played for will be a great asset to the passing. His experience Downtown Heroes FC in team. Both players will performance in their later for Real Kashmir in the upcoming season.'



second season in the ISL. the I-League. Punjab FC became the first team to get promoted to

Muheet Shabir made 23 appearances for Real Kashmir in the I-League, signed both Vinit and 11 caps for the National keeping 12 clean sheets, Muheet to our side for the the highest in the league. upcoming season. Vinit is The 22-year-old from Sri- a vastly experienced and Vinit will be instru- nagar started his career dynamic midfielder who between the defense and cil Football Academy and side. Muheet is an excitwill be vital for the Club's the 2023 Durand Cup and have a vital role to play in

Speaking about the

signing of a Technical Director of Punjab FC, Nikolaos Topoliatis said, "We are happy to have





J&K Leading the Charge in **Electricity Sector Reforms** Addressing Challenges in Unmetered Areas

JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JULY 5

meters

free billing, eliminating system reliability and sighuman errors and outdat- nificantly enhanced con- not accurately reflected ed manual systems. They sumer satisfaction. also empower consumers and payment processes.

smart metering by 2026, with contracts already tiatives government bears awarded. The UT has a huge burden in main- (AT&C) losses and bridge also excelled in deploy- taining the financial stabil- the gap between Average ing technologies such as ity of the sector, which is Cost of Supply (ACS) and AB cabling and HVDS sys- crucial for securing grants tems, enhancing system from the central govern- (ARR). reliability and ensuring ment to upgrade power public safety.

lated cables. Additionally, ing subsidy.

under the ongoing RDSS Jammu and Kashmir has being provided. Further, tered areas still prevalent emerged as a trailblazer about10,000 small HVDS in Kashmir. These areas in reforming its electric- transformers close to con- contribute to substantial ity sector, addressing long- sumer installations have energy losses, exacerbated standing legacy issues to been installed in planned by the fact that only 32% a large extent to ensure colonies, ensuring better (318605 no.) of residential enhanced service delivery voltage regulation and consumers are metered to consumers. A signifi- reducing the risk of elec- and are being billed as per cant milestone has been tricity theft. An additional actual metered consumpachieved through the 20,000 HVDS transform- tion against the total resimodernization initiative, ers are scheduled to be dential consumer base of replacing obsolete meters added under the RDSS 982125. The remaining 68% with state-of-the-art smart scheme in next fifteen of residential consumers months as per the feasibil-These advanced tech- ity. These initiatives have on a flat-rate (fixed chargnologies promise error- collectively improved es) basis.

by providing better con- able electricity tariffs for ical meters. In today's trol over electricity usage consumers have been digital age, where energy and budget management, equally prioritized, with measurements are prealongside other benefits substantial subsidies being cise from generation to like streamlined billing provided by the govern- consumption, ensuring (JERC) has introduced flatment on the full cost tariff accurate metering at the According to the latest evaluated based on the consumer end is paradata from the National current price of power mount. It's noteworthy Power Portal (NPP) man- procurement and other that Jammu and Kashmir aged by the Government actual discom expenses remains the only Union of India, J&K has secured approved by the JERC. Territory where consum- electricity consumption, a place among the top Notably, J&K refrained ers still receive electricity seven states/UTs with over from increasing electric- without meters. 500,000 smart meters ity tariffs during the cursuccessfully installed in rent financial year (2024consumer residences. 25). In the previous year Other states leading in (2023-24), while metered RDSS scheme to improve smart meter installations consumers faced a 15% according to the NPP tariff hike, the govern- reliability by strengtheninclude Punjab, Haryana, ment offset this increase ing supply infrastructure. Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, by withdrawing the 15% Madhya Pradesh, and Electricity Duty on energy Assam. J&K has set a defin- charges, resulting in no under this scheme based

However, with these ini-

scheme, approximately is grave concern over the 30,000 Ckm of AB cable is high number of unme-(663520 no.) are charged

Efforts to ensure afforditive plan to achieve 100% net rise in consumer bills. on achieving specific tar-

infrastructure. In mone- nological interventions,

In the initial phase of tary terms, it is estimated Distribution Companies reforms, 4,500 circuit that for every unit sold to (Discoms) have intensified kilometers (Ckm) of old metered residential con- enforcement activities to wires in congested urban sumers, the government curb electricity theft and areas have been replaced bears a loss of approxi- enforce regulations under with modern, fully insu- mately Rs. 3.75, by provid- the Electricity Act-2003.

At the same time, there cantly reduced Aggregate Technical & Commercial (AT&C) losses from 63% in 2021-22 to 41% in 2023-24. Progress has also been made in narrowing the gap between Aggregate Cost of Supply (ACS) and Aggregate Revenue Requirement (ARR).

To enhance efficiency and reduce losses in unmetered (Flat Rate) areas, several measures have been implemented. Distribution Companies (Discoms) are conducting calibrated load rationalization based on actual elec-The flat-rate bills have tricity usage and connected loads, ensuring comactual usage, even during pliance with Electricity the era of electro-mechan-Supply Code regulations to prevent inflated bills. Additionally, the Jammu and Kashmir Electricity **Regulatory Commission** rate tariffs to encourage consumers to transition to metered billing.

This initiative aims to accurately reflect actual thereby promoting fairness in billing practices. Furthermore, consumers in unmetered areas are receiving counseling and encouragement to opt for metered billing if they perceive flat-rate charges as disproportionate to their actual consumption. This approach empowers consumers to make informed decisions regarding their electricity usage, fostering transparency and efficiency in the billing process.

DISCOMs in J&K are

actively participating in

the Government of India's

power supply quality and

Conditional financial

assistance is provided

gets to reduce Aggregate

Technical & Commercial

These initiatives underscore Jammu and Kash-Average Revenue Realized mir's commitment to enhancing the reliability, In addition to techaffordability, and transparency of its electricity supply. The government remains dedicated to modernizing infrastructure, reducing losses, and ensuring consumer satisfaction in the electricity These efforts have signifi- sector.

Internship program in Physics (NEP-2020) commences at Govt Polytechnic for Women Jammu



JI NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, JULY 5

A 10 day and 60 hour internship Program for the students of Government College for Women Gandhi Nagar started here today in Government Polytechnic for Women Iammu.

The students undergounder NEP 2020 in Physics in Government college gram that focuses on skill exhorted upon the interns

hrs. each (Total 60 hrs.)

The inaugural function was held today in the Con- HODE&C and coordina-

for Women, Gandhi Nagar Govt College for Women, development of the com- tant Prof Govt. College for have enrolled for the pro- Gandhi Nagar, Jammu and petencies of the students. women, faculty and staff

tronics, Electrical Wiring ulty to achieve the objec- Gandhi Nagar, and Domestic appliances, tives of the internship interacting, thanked Prin-Electrical Machine and as it will bridge the gap cipal Govt. Polytechnic switches etc. It will be con- between the actual world for Women, Jammu for ducted in 3 modules of 20 of work and academics as promptly agreeing to conenvisaged in NEP 2020. duct the program for the Er. Naresh Gupta,

benefit of the students. Among those present ference hall of the insti- tor of the program, while on the occasion included tution. Er. Suket Gupta, interacting, deliberated Dr. Rawan Kumar, Associ-Principal of the institution upon conduct of such ate Prof. Govt. College for was the chief guest on the programs so as to bring Women, Dr. Iqbal Quasim ing B.Sc.(Hons) course occasion. During an inter- the academia and skill Assistant Prof. Govt. Colaction, he welcomed the development institution lege for Women, Prof. students and faculty for on platform for holistic Rajinder Kumar, Assis-Prof. Prabhjeet Kour, of Department of Elec-

enhancement based on to work in coordination HOD Physics Govern- tronics & Communication Basic Electricity and Elec- with the instructors/ fac- ment College for Women Engineering.

He further highlight-

Day-long Camp for Specially-abled Citizens held at Chadoora, Budgam

JI NEWS SERVICE BUDGAM, JULY 5

In a collaborative effort, the District Administration Budgam, Social Welfare Department, in collaboration with Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) today organised a daylong camp for specially-abled citizens at Chadoora, Budgam to streamline access and empower individuals with special abili-

ties. The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Akshay Labroo, distributed hearing aids, wheelchairs, tricycles and other prosthetics among the eligible beneficiaries of the Sub-division Chadoora. Speaking at the event,

the DC emphasised the of society. camp's objective towards special abilities.



The DC said this ini- nizing similar events in the tiative aims to enhance future, ensuring the wellmobility, improve the being and empowerment quality of life and foster of Budgam's speciallyindependence among dif- abled community. ferently-abled individuals

in the region. During the distribution to identify and support ciaries. event, the DC emphasized more individuals requirthe administration's com- ing assistance and ensure Principal Hr. Secondary mitment to ensuring the that they receive the nec- school Chadoora, DSWO, welfare and inclusion of all essary prosthetics and aids (Junior Manager- Marketspecially-abled members to enhance their daily lives ing) & (P&O) coordinator

The DC said that the trict Social Welfare Officer concerned officials were empowering persons with District Administration Budgam said that these also present on the occaremains dedicated to orga- aids would empower sion.

specially-abled citizens to access various government benefits more easily The distribution of these aids is part of a broader initiative to promote social welfare and inclusivity of these people.

In the said camp, total 131 Aids & Assistive devices of different categories like Motorized Tricycle - 11, Wheelchair - 19, Hearing Aids - 60, Smart Phone-01, Sugamya Cane - 01, Braille kit - 05, ADL kit - 01, Crutches - 06, Walking stick - 09, CP Chair- 08, Rollator-02 were distribed the ongoing efforts uted amongst 103 Benefi-Besides SDM chadoora,

On the occasion, Dis- from ALIMCO and other

Department of School Education Poonch felicitates 36 meritorious students, 6 schools

JI NEWS SERVICE

POONCH, JULY 5

The Department of School Education Poonch felicitated the meritorious students of Class 10th and 12th of Government schools in a grand ceremony themed "Kabiliyat, Koshish, aur Kaamyabi" (Talent, Effort, and Achievement) held here. DDC Chairperson, Tazeem Akhter graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, while Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Yasin M Choudhary attended as Guest of Honor.

Joint Director School Education Mohammad and certificates. Ashraf; Principal GDC also in attendance.

exams.

Students who secured



to work tirelessly to pro-

Joint Director School

In her address, the vide quality education and Poonch Prof. Jasbir Singh DDC Chairperson said, "I infrastructure to our stuand District Social Welfare am thrilled to see so many dents, empowering them Officer Vaqil Bhat were talented students here. to achieve their dreams." Your achievements are a The ceremony began testament to your hard Education Mohd Ashraf, with the lighting of the tra- work and dedication. Keep in his address, said, "I am ditional lamp by the Chief shining and make your dis- delighted to see the tal-Guest and Guest of Honor. trict proud! Education is ented students of Poonch Thirty-six meritorious stu- the key to unlocking the district being felicitated dents, one Principle and 5 potential of our youth for their outstanding per-Headmasters were felici- and we are committed to formance in the board tated for their outstanding provide the best possible exams. This ceremony is performance in the board opportunities for their a testimony to the hard growth and development." work and dedication of The DC congratulated our students, teachers,

the first position in the the students on their out- and parents. We are comdistrict were awarded standing performance, mitted to providing quality laptops, while those who saying, "Your success is education and infrastruc- on the occasion. secured the second and a reflection of the efforts ture to our students, and third positions were given of the teachers, parents, we will continue to suptabs. All other meritorious and the entire education port and encourage them by Manjeet Kumar senior students received trophies system. We will continue to reach new heights. I Lecturer.

congratulate the students, teachers, and parents on this achievement and wish them all the best for their future endeavors.'

Earlier, Chief Education Officer Bishambar Dass, in his welcome address, highlighted the achievements of the Education Department in the District. "We are committed to provide quality education and infrastructure to our students, to enable them to achieve their dreams", he said."

Narinder Mohan Suri presented the vote of thanks. Renowned singer, Ehsan Asgar, enthralled the audience with his mesmerizing songs.

The parents of the students were also present, beaming with pride, as their children received the awards.

Six schools, including one Higher Secondary School and five High Schools, also received certificates of appreciation and trophies for achieving 100% results in the board exams.

The Principals, ZEOs, and Headmasters of these schools were also present

The proceedings of the ceremony were conducted

DDC Pulwama visits CSIR-IIIM, Field Station Pulwama



JI NEWS SERVICE PULWAMA, JULY 5

The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom today visited the Field Station Bonera, Pulwama of the CSIR - Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine and conducted a comprehensive review of the various activities at the station.

different sectors of the station.

Dr. Shahid Rasool,

grams being implemented matic crops such as Lav- programs and projects. ender, Rose, Rosemary,

During his visit, Dr. and Rose Scented Gera- DDC visited the apiculture indigenous Tulip bulb Basharat interacted with nium, the station actively unit and distillation facil- availability and reduce the scientific and techno- promotes their expansion ity, where farmers' Lavenlogical staff and toured across the region through der harvests were being

Senior Scientist and of Science and Technol- vides employment oppor- with efforts to secure a Incharge of the Field Sta- ogy. Dr. Basharat empha- tunities for local women. Geographical Indication tion, informed the DDC sized the significant role

that the station, spread of the Council of Scientific Lavender to local farmers over more than 200 acres, and Industrial Research in the district and across focuses on research, devel- (CSIR) in shaping the the Union Territory. Conopment, and technology developmental landscape currently, it offers training development for region- of the country through its and capacity building to specific medicinal, aro- scientific and technologi- farmers, self-help groups, matic, nutraceutical and cal capabilities. He com- agri-entrepreneurs, floricultural crops. These mended the scientists at researchers, and students efforts aim at commercial- CSIR-IIIM field station in scientific methodoloscale production, process- Pulwama for their contri- gies through science and ing, post-harvest manage- butions to regional devel- technology-led innovative ment, and value addition. opment and affirmed his industrial farming and Known for its extensive support for the successful processing practices. and societal outreach pro- fields of high-value aro- execution of the station's

> various farmer-oriented processed for Lavender oil on training farmers and and societal outreach ini- extraction. The Lavender developing unique prodtiatives under the Ministry production initiative pro- ucts like Lavender Honey,

Efforts also include the propagation of Tulip During his tour, the bulbs, aiming to achieve dependence on imports.

The station focuses The station distributes (GI) tag for the honey.

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