

# JINDRAH IMAGES

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## LS Polls: Will winds of change break shackles of boycott history in Kashmir?

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 10

As the stage is set for massive showdown for three crucial Lok Sabha seats of Kashmir commencing from May 13 from Srinagar Parliamentary seat, the parties in fray are expecting record turnout in absence of boycott call and no fear of any sort of violence this time around. The political parties admit that stone pelting has come to all time low while as street violence has almost vanished stating that this factor should help break the shackles of boycott and lure large number of voters to the polling booths.

District-wise Voting Percentage in past Lok Sabha Elections:			
District	2004	2009	2014
Kupwara	40.08%	53.94%	62.54%
Baramulla	30.60%	32.47%	24.71%
Bandipora	40.46%	45.40%	35.24%
Ganderbal	44.66%	37.62%	43.75%
Srinagar	5.20%	12.05%	10.71%
Budgam	36.88%	40.77%	40.08%
Pulwama	6.67%	10.49%	7.66%
Shopian	14.68%	18.83%	22.31%
Anantnag	16.24%	36.08%	39.37%
Kulgam	19.63%	34.11%	36.35%
Lok Sabha-wise Voting Percentage:			
Lok Sabha	2004	2009	2014
Baramulla	35.65%	41.84%	39.13%
Srinagar	18.57%	25.55%	25.86%
Anantnag	15.04%	27.10%	28.84%
			8.96%

gation of Article 370 roll back and there is no intervention from the separatists. The 2019 Lok Sabha

recording the lowest turn-outs in comparison to the preceding three elections. In response, the election office in Kashmir has initiated awareness campaigns to encourage higher voter participation, leveraging the altered environment post the abrogation of Article 370. Figures accessed by the news agency about the ten districts in Kashmir reveal that consistently low turnout was recorded particularly in South Kashmir. Conversely, districts bordering Pakistan, such as Kupwara, Bandipora, and Baramulla, have shown relatively higher voter engagement. Since 1990, elections in the region have been

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## Every inch of PoJK belongs to India, no force can snatch it: Amit Shah

**AGENCIES**  
KHUNTI (JHARKHAND), MAY 10

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday slammed the Congress for "raising question mark" on Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and asserted that every inch of it belonged to India and no force can snatch it. "Mani Shankar Aiyar is telling us to respect Pakistan as it possesses an atomic bomb. Few days ago, INDIA alliance leader Farooq Abdullah said do not talk about PoK as Pakistan has an atomic bomb. I want to tell the Congress and INDIA alliance that PoK belongs to India and no force can snatch it," Shah said at an election rally in Jharkhand's



Khunti. He said, "I do not know what has happened to the Congress. A resolution was passed unanimously in Parliament that PoK is part of India. You (Congress) are now putting a question mark on PoK by talking about the atom bomb. BJP's stand is clear that every inch of PoK belongs to India and it will remain

with India." He said Congress preserved Article 370 for 70 years but Prime Minister Narendra Modi ensured its abrogation. Urging people to vote for the BJP, Shah said the JMM-led alliance in Jharkhand was neck-deep in corruption. "JMM-led alliance indulged in Rs 300-crore

land scam, Rs 1,000-crore mining scam, Rs 1,000-crore MNREGA scam, Rs 40-crore liquor scam. We will not allow the JMM-led alliance to digest poor people's money," he said. Referring to the recovery of about Rs 350 crore from the premises linked a Rajya Sabha MP from Jharkhand and Rs 35 crore from the domestic help of an official linked to Congress Minister Alamgir in Jharkhand, he said the money belonged to people of Jharkhand which was "being looted by Rahul Baba's party" but will be given back to the masses. He accused the JMM and Congress of doing "vote-bank politics". "Congress created

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## As long as Modi is alive, no one can touch SC-ST-OBC's quota: PM

**AGENCIES**  
NANDURBAR (MAHARASHTRA), MAY 10

Taking a dig at the Congress while addressing the "roti-kapda-makan" concerns of the underprivileged and tribals, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday assured voters in this northwest Maharashtra district with "Vanchit Ka Jo Adhikaar Hai, Modi Unka Chauki-daar Hai". Claiming it to be one of "Modi's guaranties", the PM said: "I am not from a royal family like the Con-



gress. I have grown up in poverty, I know how much you have suffered here." Acknowledging the challenges faced by tribal communities, including the lack of basic

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## QR coded textbooks, specialised e-contents needs to be part of pedagogy in classroom: MoE

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 10

The Ministry of Education and Kashmir School Education Department (JKSED) that QR coded textbooks and specialised e-contents needs to become part of the pedagogy in the classroom and easily accessible for teachers. Besides, the ministry informed that less than half of the approved ICT labs were functional in Jammu and Kashmir. The official documents of MoE available with the news agency reads, "It was observed that total 950 ICT labs were approved to

**'Less than half of the approved ICT labs functional in Jammu and Kashmir'**

the UT, out of which only 421 are functional." "The benefits of digital education can be leveraged only when these pending ICT and smart classrooms are made functional," it reads. It also said that DIKSHA-Digital Infrastructure for School Education is an

important resource of QR coded textbooks and specialised e-Contents, and this needs to become part of the pedagogy in the classroom, wherein the resources available can be used by teachers in classroom transaction. The official documents further reads that "Priority must be given to completing the ICT and smart classrooms so that our children can utilise these resources." "To further augment this effort, the focus should also be on saturating inter-network connectivity especially in secondary and senior secondary schools," MoE said. KNO

## Firing exchanges between security forces and terrorists in Poonch

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 10

Days after an attack on an IAF convoy in J&K's Poonch district left one dead and a major security sweep was initiated, firing exchanges were taking place between security forces and terrorists in the district on Friday, officials said. Officials said that firing exchanges started between the security forces and the terrorists in the Sinai Top area of Poonch. "It is believed to be the same group of terrorists that attacked a vehicle of



the Air Force on May 5 in which air warrior, Vikky Pahade, was martyred and 4 other air warriors were injured. Since May 5, security forces have launched an operation in Poonch

and Rajouri districts to trace the terrorists," an official said. Security forces say that this group of terrorists is operating in a heavily

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## Hot, dry weather conditions end as J&K receives light rainfall

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 10

Jammu and Kashmir breathed a sigh of relief on Friday as the light rains lashed the plains and higher reaches of the Union Territory while the weatherman here has predicted a three-day wet spell from tomorrow. According to the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the light rainfall has brought an end to the hot and dry weather conditions as the Kashmir parts continued to record the hottest day of the season for the three successive days from Tuesday to Thursday.

However, strong winds have been reported from different areas of Kashmir today. As per the reports, a Tavera vehicle, bearing registration number JK01A-8919 was damaged after a tree fell on it in the premises of Tattoo Ground. However, no loss of life or injury was reported during the incident. A tree also fell near the Old Secretariat here, causing damage to two vehicles as well, reports said. Meanwhile, the parts of north Kashmir also were hit by the strong winds today, causing damage to the properties. Some resi-

dential houses have suffered damage during the gusty winds today, reports said. Meanwhile, the authorities also ordered the closure of Srinagar-Baramulla highway for some time near Tappar area of Pattan after a tree fell on the road due to the windstorm. Moreover, the weatherman here has predicted a three-day wet spell from tomorrow, saying that the light to moderate rains are expected in Jammu & Kashmir from May 11 to May 13. The Meteorological department has also issued an advisory,

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## Fool-proof security arrangements in place for all three phases of Kashmir polls: IGP Kashmir

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 10

Inspector General of Kashmir V K Bhirdi Friday said that elaborate security arrangements for Kashmir polls as inter-district check-points and area domination has been taken care off. Talking to a selected group of reporters in his office chambers, the IGP, as per news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said that all arrangements have been finalised to ensure smooth polling and huge participation of voters. "Whatever mandatory security arrangements were needed, they have been taken care off,"



he said. The IGP said that police along with the Central forces have upgraded the inter-district check points and area domination has been given a further push. "We will ensure a peaceful atmosphere during all

three phases of elections in Kashmir," he said. He said security deployment has been made as per the prescribed format of Election Commission of India (ECI). "We are following ECI guidelines and ensuring that security arrangements are foolproof," he said. He said that in the coming days, frisking operations and area domination will be further intensified to ensure anti-peace elements are kept at bay. Srinagar Lok Sabha constituency will go to polls on Monday (May 13), followed by north Kashmir and South Kashmir seats on May 19 and May 25 respectively.

## BJP exploiting religion for political gain: Dr Farooq Abdullah

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
BUDGAM, MAY 10

Former chief minister and National Conference president Dr Farooq Abdullah on Friday lashed out at the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), accusing them of exploiting religion for political gain. Addressing a public rally at Kanira Chadoora in Budgam district, Abdullah, as per the news agency, said India belongs to Mahatma Gandhi's vision of inclusivity where every religion enjoys equal rights. He said the present gov-

ernment at the Centre was playing divisive politics. Dr Farooq said there is an alarming surge in inflation and criticised the Central government for its "failure" to address the issue effectively. He lamented the BJP's promises of bridging the gap between Kashmir and Delhi, saying that instead, the gap has been widening. The NC chief also hit out at the People's Democratic Party (PDP), blaming it for facilitating the BJP's entry

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## India votes in favour of UNGA resolution supporting palestine's bid to become full UN member

**AGENCIES**  
UNITED NATIONS, MAY 10

India on Friday voted in favour of a draft UN General Assembly resolution that said Palestine is qualified and should be admitted as full member of the United Nations and recommended that the Security Council "reconsider" the matter "favourably". The 193-member General Assembly met in the morning for an emergency special session where the Arab Group resolution 'Admission of new



Members to the United Nations', in support of the State of Palestine's

full membership in the UN, was presented by the United Arab Emirates, as

Chair of the Arab Group in May. The resolution got 143 votes in favour, including by India, nine against and 25 abstentions. The UNGA hall broke into an applause after the vote was cast. The resolution determined that "the State of Palestine is qualified for membership in the United Nations" in accordance with Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations and "should therefore be admitted to membership in the United Nations". It recommended that

the Security Council "reconsider the matter favourably, in the light of this determination". India was the first non-Arab State to recognise the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people in 1974. India was also one of the first countries to recognise the State of Palestine in 1988 and in 1996, Delhi opened its Representative Office to the Palestine Authority in Gaza, which was

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## Govt reconstitutes departmental designated committee of H&ME Dept

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 10

The government has ordered the reconstitution of a Departmental Designated committee to examine the cases of doctors or any officer/official of Health and Medical Education Department/subordinate offices for proper and timely disposal of cases pertaining to un-authorized absence/overstay on deputation/study leave/NoC cases or any other relevant case," reads the order. The other members of the committee include Additional Secretary to

Government (Dealing with HRM Section), Additional Secretary to Government (Dealing with Health & Medical Education Section), Assistant Law Officer, Health and Medical Education Department (Dealing with Health Section), Assistant Accounts Officers Health and Medical Department (s) and Under Secretary to the Government H&ME (Dealing with HRM Section) will be member secretary. "The committee shall be assisted by the Section Officer (HRM), Head

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## DC Doda chairs Stakeholders Consultative meet to enhance sanitation, tourist facilities across the district

JNEWS SERVICE  
DODA, MAY 10

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Doda, Harvinder Singh today held a comprehensive Stakeholders Consultative Meeting at Gatha Park Bhaderwah, focusing on enhancing sanitation and tourist facilities across the district, especially at popular tourist destinations like Guldanda, Padri and Jai Valley. The meeting was attended by CEO Bhaderwah Development Authority, CPO Doda, ACP Doda, Deputy Registrar Cooperatives, EO MC Doda Executive Engineer, other senior officers of district administration and stakeholders from Hotel Associations and Tourism associations.

Addressing the gathering, DC Doda emphasized the collaborative effort required to launch the "Clean Bhaderwah-Green

Bhaderwah" initiative, aimed at fostering awareness and responsibility towards maintaining cleanliness in tourist areas. He further reinforced the ban on polythene to preserve the natural beauty of these locations.

The DC also stressed on constructing vermi compost pits at tourist spots to convert biodegradable waste into useful manure which would go a long way in creating an organic crop ecosystem in the district.

The Deputy Commissioner further directed the Deputy Registrar cooperatives to immediately come up with a plan to register a cooperative body for maintaining proper cleanliness around tourist spots, enhancing coordination and accountability in promoting tourism initiatives and utilising waste generated at such places into useful products in association with Muni-

palities and Rural Development Department.

During the meeting, it was decided to give eco-friendly carry bags to each vehicle going to tourism spots with "Clean Bhaderwah-Green Bhaderwah" logo while charging nominal fees through Bhaderwah Development Authority for ensuring cleanliness in such places. Through this initiative, each vehicle/tourist would be made aware to utilise such bags to bring back plastic/non-degradable waste back from tourism spots.

It was further decided that a Swachata Abhiyan will be carried out at Jai Valley and Guldanda on May 18th and 19th with an aim to mobilize community participation in maintaining cleanliness standards. In a bid to address waste management challenges, it was decided that Bhaderwah Municipality will undertake the collec-

tion of plastic waste, while ACP was asked to identify dumping locations and oversee vermi composting initiatives especially in spots closer to water bodies like Neeru Nallah. Furthermore, BDA was asked to install information boards at strategic locations to enhance visitor experience and awareness regarding tourist facilities.

On the sidelines of the meeting, DC Doda also inspected the Gatha Park and underscored the importance of proper facilities like eateries, toilets and lighting for night visitors in the park.

During his inspection, he interacted with park officials to assess cleanliness, security measures, and overall infrastructure thereby reinforcing the commitment to provide a safe and enjoyable environment for leisure activities.

## Comprehensive review of ICDS projects held at Banihal

JNEWS SERVICE  
RAMBAN MAY 10

A two day comprehensive back-to-back review meeting of ICDS projects of Ramban concluded today at Banihal. Chaired by Project Officer ICDS Jahangir Hashmi, the meeting underlined key strategies for effective implementation of the Poshan (ICDS) scheme in four ICDS projects in Gool, Ukhraal (Ramsoo), Ramban and Banihal.

The two-day session, which concluded in Banihal, saw attendance from concerned Child Development Project Officers (CDPOs) and supervisors from these areas. Hashmi emphasized the need for a comprehensive approach to the Poshan (ICDS) scheme, moving beyond merely addressing malnutrition among children and women. He stressed the importance of preparing children for school through preschool learning initiatives, in addition to providing nutritious meals.

Anganwadi centers, he explained, will now serve as holistic preschool stations, focusing on

nutrition provision, school readiness, and continuous growth monitoring. Hashmi directed officials to ensure 100% Aadhaar verification for all enrolled beneficiaries, aiming for complete transparency in the system. Currently, 98% of beneficiaries under ICT schemes are Aadhaar verified.

Hashmi instructed the verification of all workers and Anganwadi helpers to guarantee their presence at respective centers, with online attendance and Poshan tracker uploads to ensure accountability. All nutrition provisions and activities, including growth monitoring and vaccination schedules, are to be meticulously recorded on the online portal for real-time monitoring and corrections.

Supervisors were tasked with ensuring the inclusion of all eligible women under the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) scheme. Hashmi's directives aim to enhance the effectiveness and transparency of ICDS initiatives, ultimately improving child and maternal health outcomes in the region.

## DC flags off 45 Haj Pilgrims from Doda

JNEWS SERVICE  
DODA, MAY 10

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Harvinder Singh on Friday flagged off a group of 45 Haj pilgrims of SSP Doda Javid Iqbal, ACR Doda Sunil Butyal. The group of pilgrims included 23 pilgrims from Doda, 4 from Bhaderwah, 7 from Thathri and 11 from Gandoh.

The District Administration Doda ensured all necessary arrangements and facilities to enable the pilgrims to travel safely and comfortably to Haj house Srinagar for their onward journey to Saudi Arabia from International Airport Srinagar.

Interacting with the pilgrims, the DC congratulated them for getting the opportunity to perform holy Hajj and wished them safe and secure pilgrimage. He appealed them to pray for peace and prosperity of the country and their fellow citizens from the District. He emphasized the significance of the Haj pilgrimage and the importance of upholding the values of peace, unity and brotherhood.

The event was attended by officials from the District Administration and Police, representatives from the religious community, and well-wishers who came together to bid farewell to the pilgrims and pray for their well-being during their sacred journey. Besides, a large number of family members including kids were present to see off their family members.

## Lok Sabha Elections 2024

### Gulmarg gears up for mega SVEEP program on 11th & 12th of May

JNEWS SERVICE  
BARAMULLA, MAY 10

The Chief Executive Officer, Gulmarg Development Authority (GDA), today convened a meeting at its Tangmarg office to finalize arrangements for the upcoming Mega Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) program, scheduled to be held on May 11th and 12th, 2024.

The mega event being held under the overall supervision of District Election Officer, Baramulla, Minga sherpa and in collaboration with the GDA and Hoteliers

Club Gulmarg, aims to enhance voter awareness and maximise participation of people in the Lok Sabha Elections in I-Baramulla PC on 20th May.

During the mega SVEEP program a diverse range of engaging activities, including musical performances, plantation drive, sports events, and other meticulously curated activities will be held to educate and empower citizens about the importance of participation in the electoral process. The meeting thoroughly discussed logistical arrangements, activity scheduling,

and interdepartmental coordination to ensure the program's seamless execution and maximum impact. The Chief Executive Officer GDA emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts in organizing a successful SVEEP program, highlighting the collective responsibility in promoting electoral awareness and active participation among the local community.

The meeting was attended by Tehsildar Gulmarg, CEO Baramulla (Nodal Officer SVEEP), DFO Tangmarg, DYSSO Baramulla and other officers.

## DC B'la chairs DLCC meet on COTPA-2003

JNEWS SERVICE  
BARAMULLA, MAY 10

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa today chaired a review meeting of District Level Coordination Committee (DLCC) for the implementation of (Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products Act) COTPA-2003 and National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) in District Baramulla.

The meeting comprehensively discussed essential elements of COTPA-2003, such as the ban on smoking in public areas, its advertising limitations, besides sales restrictions concerning minors and areas near schools, and implementation of regulatory measures. The DC directed all the

stakeholders to conduct a comprehensive awareness campaign in schools and colleges to educate students about the detrimental effects of smoking and consuming tobacco in any form. Meanwhile, the DC instructed the officers to rigorously implement and uphold a prohibition on the sale of tobacco products within a 200-meter radius of school premises, and penalize those individuals who are found violating this regulation. Additionally, Minga Sherpa directed the officers to display posters in public spaces that detail the adverse effects of cigarette smoking and tobacco consumption, aiming to raise awareness and discourage these harmful habits among the public.

## Lok Sabha Elections 2024: Supplementary Randomization of EVMs held at Bandipora

JNEWS SERVICE  
BANDIPORA, MAY 10

The District Election Office Bandipora on Friday conducted supplementary randomisation of EVMs for the Lok Sabha Election 2024 scheduled to be held on 20th May 2024 in 03 ACs of District Bandipora which is part of I-Baramulla PC.

The supplementary randomization of EVM Ballot Units was conducted as the number of candidates increased by 15 in I-Baramulla PC.

The supplementary randomization was conducted under the supervision of District Election Officer (DEO) Bandipora, Shakeel ul Rehman in presence of Deputy District Election Officer, Mohammad Rafeeq Bhat; ARO 15 - Bandipora Shabir

Ahmad Wani, Nodal Officer EVM and other senior officers.

The supplementary randomization was also attended by representatives from various political parties.

On the occasion, the DEO said that randomization helps to prevent any potential bias or manipulation in the assignment of EVMs, thus ensuring that each polling station receives its machines impartially.

The randomization was carried out using dedicated software designed for this purpose to allocate Ballot Units, Control Units, and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) units for three assembly segments including 14- Sonawari, 15-Bandipora and 16-Gurez.

## Power shutdown

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 10

Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Industrial Area SIDCO Ghatti, Channi, Marheen, Paharpur, Rajbagh, Chandwan, Haria-Chack, Nanan Barnoti and adjoining areas will remain affected on May 12 from 6 am to 10 am.

Similarly, the power supply to District Udhampur and adjoining areas will remain affected on May 12 from 6 am to 12 noon.

Likewise, the power supply to Miran Sahib R.S Pura, Kullian, Purana Pind, Beaspur, Salehar and adjoining areas will remain affected on May 12 from 7 am to 10 am.

Similarly, the power supply to Reasi, PHE, DC Office, Mahadev and adjoining areas will remain affected on May 12 from 7 am to 1 pm.

Likewise, the power supply to Arnas, Dharmari, Sar Baggha, Panassa, Chasana, Mohore, Gulabgarh and adjoining areas will remain affected on May 13 and 14 from 7 am to 1 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Gangyal Industry, Parts of Preet Nagar, Greater Jammu, Anutham Hotel, Parts of Gangyal and its adjoining areas will remain affected on May 12 from 7 am to 1 pm.

Likewise, the power supply to Transport Nagar and its adjoining areas will remain affected on May 11 from 7 am to 1 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Nandpur-Baba Chamilyal, BSF, Ablad, Pindi, Jherada and its adjoining areas will remain affected on May 11 from 7 am to 12 noon.

Likewise, the power supply to Datta Talab, Birpur, Ansal, Sainik Colony and its adjoining areas will remain affected on May 12 from 6 am to 10 am.

Similarly, the power supply to Ramban, Sangaldhan and its adjoining areas will remain affected on May 11 and 12 from 9 am to 5 pm.

Likewise, the power supply to Ramban Town, District Administrative Complex, Pernote, Gandri, Tanger, Battery Chasma, MES, Karol Chanderkote etc. will remain affected on May 12 from 9 am to 4 pm.

Meanwhile, the Superintending Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, O&M Circle Kathua has informed that the power supply to Birpur and its adjoining areas will remain affected on May 12 from 6 am to 10 am.

## Lok Sabha Elections 2024:

### DEO Kupwara visits far-flung Kamkadi village, inspects polling station

JNEWS SERVICE  
KUPWARA, MAY 10

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan, who is also District Election Officer (DEO) Friday visited Kamkadi, a far flung village of Hayama in Kupwara district and inspected polling station No-01 Kamkadi of the Kupwara Assembly Constituency to take first hand appraisal of Assured Minimum Facilities (AMFs).

She also reviewed the preparedness of administration for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

This polling station due to its remote geographical location has been declared as a special polling station of the Kupwara district.

The inspection was aimed to ensure that this polling station is accessible to voters especially to specially-abled persons.

Ramp access, and other facilities were reviewed by the DEO.

The DEO, accompanied by ACR Kupwara, Peerzada Mumtaz, Ex. Engineer R&B, Commanding officer 47 RR, Tehsildar Kupwara and Zonal Magistrate assessed the facilities, security arrangements and accessibility features at the polling station.

Ayushi emphasized the concerned departments for ensuring all required facilities at the polling station so that each and every eligible voter shall participate in the election process without any hindrance.

The DC interacted with staff to review the preparedness and adherence to electoral guidelines, emphasizing the importance of impartiality and transparency throughout the electoral proceedings. She reiterated the

administration's commitment to conducting free, fair and peaceful elections, urging all stakeholders to cooperate and contribute to the success of the electoral process.

The DC also reviewed the storage infrastructure, security measures, and inventory management systems in place at Polling station to handle election material

The DEO interacted with the locals and first time voters of the village and urged them to use their right to franchise enthusiastically.

She further said that Kamkadi is a beautiful valley which has vast tourism potential and in future it will be brought on a tourism map and necessary infrastructure will be developed.

Remote Kamkadi polling station has a total of 191 voters.

JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 9

Secretary, Rural Development Department (RDD) and Panchayati Raj, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, reviewed the status of implementation of convergence plan between the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and the Integrated Watershed Management Programme (WDC-PMKSY 2.0) here today.

Dr. Shahid emphasized that the convergence between MGNREGS and IWMP stands as the flagship project of the department. He asked all the Assistant Commissioners Development (ACD's) to focus on supplementing IWMP's supplementary Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) with comprehensive convergence plans, ensuring optimal utilization of resources. He stressed on the need for improvisation at various levels to ensure that additional projects align with the objectives of comprehensive watershed management.

He emphasized that NRLM activities should be undertaken through convergence with the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee

## DC Bandipora chairs DLC meeting on Change of Land Use

JNEWS SERVICE  
BANDIPORA, MAY 10

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Shakeel Ul Rehman on Friday convened a meeting of the District Level Committee (DLC) regarding Change of Land Use (CLU) cases in the district.

On the occasion, detailed discussion was held regarding comments submitted by various

departments for the issuance of NOCs of pending cases of CLU in the district.

A total of 03 cases were reviewed, and following extensive discussions on the policy's different facets, the committee approved 01 case, while one was rejected due to non-availability of NOC and one is withheld for further process.

The DC directed the

concerned departments to provide NOCs within the specified timeframe as outlined in the provisions of the PSGA Act to ensure prompt processing of CLU.

The meeting was attended by ACR Bandipora Shabir Ahmad Wani, Chief Agriculture Officer, Bandipora, Ex. Engineer R&B Bandipora, Chief Horticulture Officer, Bandipora and officers from concerned departments.





## A. S. N. School beats Tiny Tots School in Cricket & Kho-Kho match

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 10

A. S. N. Hr. Sec. School, Channi Himmat, Jammu organized friendly Cricket Match for boys and Kho-Kho match for girls with Tiny Tots Hr. Sec. School, Sainik Colony, Jammu where in one team of cricket and one team of Kho-kho participated in the matches. The matches were played at Armed Police Complex, Channi Himmat.



Mr. Zahid Manhas IPS, Commandant SDRF 2nd Bn, Jammu was the Chief Guest on the occasion while Mr. Ajay Sharma JKPS, SP South Jammu presided over the event where as Mrs. Manpreet Kour, Vice-Principal Army Public School, Jammu Cantt, Mrs. Seema Sambyal, Principal Holy Presentation Convent School, Kathua, Dr. Vikram Handa, Principal Tiny Tots Hr. Sec. School, Sainik Colony and Mrs. Vishakha Raut Pandita, Outreach Manager, Shoolini University, Solan Himachal Pradesh were the Guests on Honour.

T-10 Cricket match for boys was played between ASN team and Tiny Tots Team where in ASN School team won the toss and decided to ball first. Tiny Tots team was able to score just 42 runs in 10 overs with a loss of 9 wickets where in ASN School team scored 43 runs in just 17 balls with a loss of 1 wicket and won the match. In kho-kho match for girls, again ASN team won the toss and decided to chase first. Tiny Tots team was all out in 17 minutes while ASN School team won the match with a loss of just 3 points.

The event was declared open by Mr. Ajay Sharma SP South Jammu along with Mr. Ritesh Kapoor, Director A.S.N.Hr.Sec. School, Channi Himmat. Mr. Ajay Sharma after declaring the event open for the children to participate appreciated A.S.N.Hr. Sec.School for taking an initiative in coming forward and organizing such events by indulging sportsmanship amongst the students. He added that there are also countless studies that sport and activity is not only great for overall health, it's also good for mental wellbeing and academic performance.

Ritesh Kapoor, Director of A.S.N.Hr.Sec.School during his address congratulated the students for their active participation in both the matches. He said that an organised sports competition is also a great opportunity for students coming to a new school together to quickly build new friendships and to learn and share various techniques and styles of playing to boost their talent. He added that every year A.S.N.School organize various Inter-School competitions to make their students ready for the competitive world and likewise this year lots more Inter-School events are on its way for the same.

Zahid Manhas IPS, Commandant SDRF 2nd Bn at the time of the conclusion lauded the efforts put on in this friendly Cricket and Kho-kho matches organized by A.S.N.School. He said Competitive sport is also great for building confidence, self-esteem and challenging kids to get out and have a go. He added that playing sport is a really important part of growing up and sports and competition gives school children a better life balance and teaches us about winning and losing. Zahid said that lots of athletes are born out of such competitions, and it has and continues to be an effective way of figuring out the best athletes and sports people in the country. He presented Medals and Certificates to winners and runner ups of both the matches. Souvenirs were presented to the respected guests and the Chief Guest by Director A.S.N.Hr.Sec.School followed by refreshment for all the participants. The function closed with national anthem.

As a part of Apollo's initiative of providing advanced treatment to people across the country, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, New Delhi organized a press conference to introduce a groundbreaking advancement in the field of neurosurgery. Dubbed "ZAP X," this revolutionary technology promises to revolutionize the way complex brain surgeries are performed, offering new hope to patients and their families. Addressing a press conference in Jammu, Dr. Sudheer Tyagi, Senior Consultant, Neurosurgery, Indraprastha Apollo Hospital and Dr. Gaurav Tyagi, Consultant, Neurosurgery, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals provided in-depth insights into the ZAP X technology, its potential applications, and the significant benefits it offers for patients undergoing neurosurgical procedures.

## Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals unveils groundbreaking 'ZAP X' Technology, Revolutionizing Brain Surgery

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Dr. Sudheer Tyagi said by leveraging cutting-edge technology and advanced techniques, this innovative solution aims to minimize the risks associated with traditional neurosurgical methods, leading to improved patient outcomes and faster recovery times. "We are resolute in our dedication to advancing medical frontiers and offering our patients the most cutting-edge treatment alternatives. The ZAP X technology represents a paradigm shift in neurosurgery, providing unparalleled accuracy, safety, and efficiency that reduces the risks associated with traditional neurosurgical techniques for select cases," said Dr. Sudheer Tyagi. He said with ZAP X, we can now approach intricate brain lesions with radiosurgery, achieving a level of precision that was previously unattainable, leading to improved outcomes and faster recovery times.



Dr. Gaurav Tyagi, Consultant, Neurosurgery, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, added "This pioneering technology not only enhances our surgical capabilities but also offers newfound hope to patients grappling with complex neurological conditions. The precision and minimally invasive nature of ZAP X will undoubtedly lead to better outcomes, shorter hospital stays, and faster recoveries for our patients. We are excited to be at the forefront of this transformative innovation, which aligns with our unwavering commitment to providing exceptional care and improving the lives of those we serve."

The three-day annual veterinary festival, "Vet Fest-2K24," hosted by the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry at SKUAST-Jammu, R S Pura, was concluded. Prof. B.N. Tripathi, the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST Jammu graced the occasion as the esteemed Chief Guest alongside Dr. Rajesh Katoch, Dean, FVSc & AH; Dr. Sudhakar Dwivedi, DSW, SKUAST-Jammu and other esteemed statutory officers of the University. The concluding day started with different outdoor sports activities viz. race (100m/200m), javelin throw and marathon followed by cultural events in which both faculty and students participated with great zeal and zest.

## Three Day Vet Fest 2k24 concludes at SKUAST-Jammu

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Dr. Hema Tripathi, Associate Director Extension, also congratulated the veterinary fraternity for the successful completion of the event. The day also witnessed prize distribution by the esteemed Chief Guest to the winners of different events viz. Literary events (Debate, Story Writing, Mad - Ad, Ship Wreck, Quiz and Youth Parliament), cultural events (Dance, Music, Theatre), Photography, Flower Decoration, besides various Sports Events (indoor and outdoor games viz. Badminton, Chess, Table Tennis, Carom, Cricket, Basket Ball, Volley Ball, Tug of War, 100 & 200 meter Races) organized over three days long Vet-Fest, 2K24. Best room in boys/girls hostel was also adjudged and awarded.



Dr. H.R Bhardwaj, Organizing Secretary of VET FEST 2K24 extended vote of thanks and congratulated the whole veterinary fraternity of SKUAST-Jammu for the successful completion of the event. The programme was held in collaboration with IDP-NAHEP, SKUAST-Jammu to boost the confidence of the students and develop overall personality. Dr. H.R Bhardwaj, Organizing Secretary of VET FEST 2K24 extended vote of thanks and congratulated the whole veterinary fraternity of SKUAST-Jammu for the successful completion of the event.

Dr. H.R Bhardwaj, Organizing Secretary of VET FEST 2K24 extended vote of thanks and congratulated the whole veterinary fraternity of SKUAST-Jammu for the successful completion of the event.

## IIIM organizes Rashtriya Boudhik Sampada Mahotsav, Focused on Innovation and Sustainable Development



**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 10

CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (CSIR-IIIM) successfully organized the Rashtriya Boudhik Sampada Mahotsav (National Intellectual Property Festival) here today at CK Atal Auditorium of the institute. This event, which brought together intellectual minds to explore the significance of intellectual property rights in fostering innovation, coincided with the World IP Day. With the theme "IP and the SDGs: Building Our Common Future with Innovation and Creativity," the festival aimed at delving into how innovative ideas could contribute to sustainable development Goals.

Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director CSIR-IIIM, in his presidential remarks, highlighted the institute's dedication to promoting intellectual property rights and innovation. He emphasized the significance of intellectual property in fostering innovation and sustainable development, stressing its pivotal role in nurturing ideas setting the stage for meaningful discussions. He also discussed government policies supporting start-up innovations, and urged young researchers to prioritize patenting. He reaffirmed the institute's commitment to support societal goals. Underlining the importance of such events in guiding researchers, Dr. Zabeer appreciated the organizing team and keynote speakers for making this event a great success.

Dr. Paromita Banerjee, Principal Scientist at CSIR-IIIM, highlighted the importance of conducting a comprehensive prior art search, by identifying relevant patents, scientific literature, technical reports, and other sources of prior art. Inventors can gain valuable insights into the state of the art, identify potential obstacles to patentability, and refine their patent strategy accordingly, she added.

## Gulchain Singh Charak bereaved

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 10

Gulchain Singh Charak, Former Minister and former member of Congress Working Committee (Former AICC Gen. Secretary Incharge of Bihar, Punjab & Chandigarh UT) mourned the demise of his elder sister, Smt. Krishna Devi Jamwal, wife of Late Shri Madho Singh Jamwal, Deputy Director retired from the Education Department, who passed away this morning after a brief illness at her residence in Greater Kailash, Jammu. She is survived by her



five sons: Brig MS Jamwal (Retd), Maheshwar Singh Jamwal ETO Retd., Manohar Singh, Rajinder Singh and Col SS Jamwal (Retd). The cremation took place at the Cremation ground Mandal, with the last rites performed by the family members in which people from all walks of life participated.

## India to participate at 77th Cannes Film Festival; 'Bharat Parva' to be celebrated at 77th Cannes Film Festival

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 10

It is a special year for India at the Cannes Film Festival as the country readies for the 77th edition of the prestigious festival. The Corporate Indian Delegation consists of representatives from Government of India, State Governments, members of the industry will showcase India's creative economy in the leading film market of the world, Marche du Films through a series of significant initiatives.

It will be for the first time that the country will host a "Bharat Parv" at the 77th Cannes Film Festival, for eminent dignitaries and delegates from around the world participating in the Festival, to engage with film celebrities, filmmakers, directors, producers, buyers and sales agents from across the world and showcase the myriad creative opportunities and a rich bank of creative talent. The official poster & trailer of the

55th India International Film Festival (IFFI) to be held in Goa on 20-28 November, 2024 will be unveiled at the Bharat Parv. The Bharat Parv will also see the release of the "Save the Date" for the 1st World Audio-Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES) to be hosted alongside the 55th IFFI.

The Bharat Pavilion at the 77th Cannes Film Festival at 108 village International Riviera, will be inaugurated on May 15 in the presence of eminent film personalities. The Bharat Pavilion at Cannes serves as a platform for the Indian film community to engage in various activities, including, fostering production collaborations, curated knowledge sessions, signing distribution deals, greenlighting scripts, B2B meetings and networking with prominent entertainment and media players from around the world. The Pavilion will be organized by the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) in collaboration with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) as industry partner. A 'Bharat Stall' will be put in the Marche du Cannes through the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for providing the industry to connect & collaborate.

The Bharat Pavilion has been designed by the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad is christened on 'The Sutradhara' for depicting this year's theme of "Create in India". As we look at India's presence, this year, at the Cannes Film Festival, a rich history and the landscape of creativity denote the direction on an international stage.

In the spotlight, Payal Kapadia's magnum opus, "All We Imagine As Light," poised to captivate audiences and vie for the prestigious Palme d'Or. Notably, this marks a significant milestone as an Indian title graces the Competition section of Cannes Film Festival Official Selection, after three decades. The cinematic landscape is further enriched by British-Indian filmmaker Sandhya Suri's poignant narrative in "Santosh," in Un Certain Regard alongside Karan Kandhari's evocative "Sister Midnight" in Directors' Fortnight and Maisam Ali's compelling "In Retreat" in L'Acid.

The Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) student's film "SUNFLOWERS WERE FIRST ONES TO KNOW" is selected in the La Cinef Competitive section. The short film made in Kannada, was shortlisted among entries from across the globe and will now compete against 17 other international short films in the final stage.

Furthermore, Shyam Benegal's 'Manthan', a film focusing on the Amul dairy cooperative movement, will be presented in the Classics section, adding a touch of historical significance to the festival's Indian lineup. The film reels were preserved for several decades in film vaults of NFDC-National Film Archive of India (NFAI), a unit of the Ministry, and has been restored by the Film Heritage Foundation (FHM).

National Award-winning cinematographer Santosh Sivan will be the recipient of the prestigious Pierre Angenieux tribute at the Cannes Film Festival. He will also deliver a masterclass for the Cannes delegates, becoming the first Indian to be honored with this distinction.

Many Indian states including Goa, Maharashtra, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Jharkhand, and Delhi are likely to participate to help showcase India's diverse locations and film talent. A Session on exploring opportunities of film production in collaboration with India, titled "Abundant Incentives and Seamless Facilitations - Come, Create in India" is being organized at the Main Stage (Riviera) on 15th May at 12

pm. The panel discussion will spotlight India's huge incentives for film production, co-production opportunities, and the top-notch post-production facilities. The panel will put forward as to how filmmakers are welcoming these initiatives, what are the actual experiences on the ground for filming in India and what are the exciting stories that are being shared.

Interactive sessions at the Bharat Pavilion, organized throughout the festival, will cover topics such as incentives for creating in India, international collaboration in film festivals, India as a filming destination, bilateral film co-productions between India and countries like Spain, the UK, and France, among others. These sessions aim to facilitate discussions, networking, and collaboration opportunities for filmmakers seeking to engage with the dynamic Indian film industry and international partners.

## EDITORIAL

## Crucial factor in Ladakh's electoral race

As the electoral landscape unfolds in Ladakh's lone Parliamentary constituency, the pivotal role of Kargil district comes sharply into focus. Beyond mere candidate representation, Kargil holds sway over the electorate with over 7,000 more votes than Leh district, while Leh boasts a distinctive feature where female voters outnumber their male counterparts. With a total of 1,84,803 electorates, Ladakh's Parliamentary seat stands among the few constituencies nationwide with fewer than two lakh voters. According to official data, Leh district accounts for 88,877 voters, while Kargil boasts 95,926. Observers suggest that given Ladakh's electorate's religious divisions, Kargil's additional voters grant it a significant advantage over Leh. Leh, predominantly Buddhist, contrasts with Kargil's Shia Muslim majority. With two out of three candidates hailing from Leh and only one from Kargil, political analysts anticipate a favorable outcome for the solitary candidate from Kargil due to potential vote splitting in Leh. Historically, the BJP secured victory in Ladakh in 2014 and 2019 when two candidates hailed from Kargil. The mass resignation of National Conference (NC) leaders in Kargil has sparked widespread speculation and raised eyebrows across the political spectrum. This bold move, ostensibly triggered by directives from party president Dr. Farooq Abdullah to support the Congress candidate Tsering Namgyal in the Ladakh Lok Sabha seat, evokes memories of a similar episode in 2009, hinting at a potential repeat of history. In 2009, amidst a coalition government between the National Conference and Congress in Jammu and Kashmir, the Ladakh Lok Sabha seat was allocated to the Congress as per the seat-sharing agreement. However, the then NC leader Ghulam Hassan Khan defied party lines and contested the seat as an independent candidate. Supported clandestinely by leaders of the Kargil unit of the NC, Khan emerged victorious, defeating the coalition partner candidate. What followed was a strategic move as Khan, despite winning as an independent candidate, extended unconditional support to the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government, aligning with the NC's interests. This maneuver, orchestrated by Dr. Farooq Abdullah, showcased the party's ability to navigate complex political landscapes and secure its objectives. The district's lone representative, Mohammad Haneefa Jan, an Independent candidate backed by National Conference and Congress units, faces stiff competition from Tashi Gyalson of BJP and Tsering Namgyal of Congress, both from Leh. The dynamics of this electoral contest also reflect broader political alliances, exemplified by the en masse resignation of the Kargil unit of the National Conference, following directives to support Congress candidate Tsering Namgyal. This move underscores the intricate interplay between national party strategies and regional dynamics. Ladakh braces for the Lok Sabha polls, the electoral landscape underscores Kargil's pivotal role in shaping the region's political trajectory. Beyond mere representation, the district's demographics, logistical challenges, and political allegiances converge to define the contours of Ladakh's parliamentary dynamics.

## Do you want the good or bad news on tornadoes and hurricanes?

MARK GONGLOFF

If the Car Crash Fairy offered you a deal that would lower your odds of getting in a car accident, but the trade-off was that any accidents you did get into would be far more likely to injure or kill you, you probably wouldn't take that deal. But that might be the bargain we have made with climate change and two of the most destructive natural disasters.

Many of the heat waves, droughts and floods wracking the planet have clearly been made more likely by warming. The jury is still out on whether tornadoes and hurricanes will similarly become more frequent. They might even happen less often, at least in some places. But the ones that do occur could be more destructive, raising risks for everyone from insurers to urban planners.

People in the Midwest facing yet another onslaught of tornadoes this week could be forgiven for thinking there have never been more of them. Consider Indiana, for example, suffering its fifth twister attack of 2024 after one of the state's busiest years on record. But, in fact, tornadoes seem to happen in Indiana about

as often now as they did in, say, the 1970s.

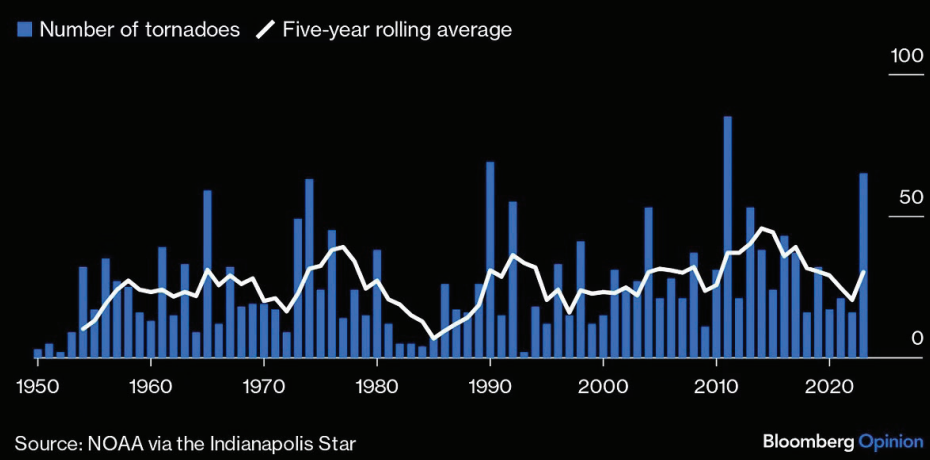
This might seem counterintuitive. The supercell thunderstorms that breed tornadoes thrive on heat, moisture and instability in the air, something weather nerds call CAPE, or convective available potential energy. And climate change is certainly generating plenty of that. But these storms also need "wind shear," a change in wind speed and direction at different altitudes. While global warming creates more CAPE, it also creates less wind shear.

In some places and times, warming's CAPE effect will outweigh its wind-shear effect, producing more tornadoes. In other times and places, the opposite will happen. Good luck trying to model it; tornadoes are hyperlocal events that chaotically pop in and out of existence like virtual particles or TikTok dances.

A 2021 study by researchers at Columbia University and Central Michigan University suggested that every 1 degree Celsius of warming would make tornado-friendly conditions increase by 5% to 20%, though the actual incidence of severe

### Scattered Twisters

Last year was one of Indiana's busiest for tornadoes, but they don't appear to have become much more frequent as the planet has warmed



weather would increase by a little less. The planet has warmed by about 1.3C above preindustrial averages so far. Maybe a world of 2.7C warming will have noticeably more supercell storms and other severe weather, including damaging winds and hail.

And a new study from researchers at Iowa State University and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory suggests that, as the climate warms, tornadoes will increasingly be included in the package deal of misery delivered by hurricanes, along with floods, storm surge and high winds.

Again, though, the jury is out. A couple of years

back, scientists did notice a trend of fewer days with tornadoes, but many more tornadoes hitting all at once, in clusters, when conditions were right. And they generally expect that the Tornado Alley that cuts through the middle of the US will shift eastward over time and that supercell storms will happen earlier in the year as the planet warms.

That may sound like a wash, but as tornadoes leave the great wide open of the Plains, they will encroach on places where more people live, often in mobile homes and other structures that aren't prepared for them. The net effect is that the number of

severe US storms inflicting at least \$1 billion in damage has soared in recent years, setting a record in 2023, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Hurricanes are a little easier to predict than tornadoes, and climate models suggest global warming might actually make them happen less often. Despite all the heating we've experienced so far, the same number of hurricanes make landfall in the US today as 125 years ago, according to NASA.

That's where the good news ends. As Texas A&M University climate scientist Andrew Dessler pointed out in a recent Substack

post, hotter air and water – along with the aforementioned dampening of wind shear – mean the hurricanes that do form will be far more intense and destructive. Rising sea levels will also increase storm surge, and don't forget about those hurricane-spawned tornadoes (hurricanes?). As with tornadoes, the end result could be more deaths and injuries and more monetary damage and losses for insurers, even if hurricanes are fewer in number.

The first lesson here is that we must stop making the climate even more chaotic by burning fossil fuels and pumping greenhouse gases into the atmosphere as quickly as possible. Meanwhile, businesses and homeowners who might think they're not in harm's way should consider the possibility that the harm will come to find them. Policymakers need to help vulnerable people prepare for a potentially more dangerous future and ensure that infrastructure and housing can better withstand whatever nature brings. When it comes to disasters, as with car accidents, quantity is far less important than quality.

## India and Armenia strengthen defence ties amidst regional instability

PADMALOCHAN DASH

In recent years, the strategic partnership between India and Armenia has undergone a remarkable transformation – fired by their shared commitment to fortify defence capabilities and confront regional security challenges head-on. Against the backdrop of Armenia's enduring struggle with Azerbaijan and Turkey's support for Azerbaijan's advantages, the precipitating connection between Armenia and India stands for recognition. Armenia's proximity to India and both agreeing to diversify their strategic alignment, deserves special attention on the global stage.

Military Cooperation: Armenia's imperative to diversify its security alliances and bolster its military capabilities, particularly amidst the enduring conflict with Azerbaijan, is evident through heightened defense spending and collaborations with nations such as India and

France. India's involvement with Armenia's military not only strengthens its defensive capabilities but also serves to counterbalance external-internal influences like Turkey and Pakistan in the South Asian region. The expanding Indo-Armenian partnership encompasses various facets, including the exchange of weaponry, joint military exercises, and strategic consultations, all aimed at enhancing defense readiness and security in their respective regions.

Advanced Weaponry and Joint Exercises: The acquisition of state-of-the-art weaponry highlights the growing defense cooperation between India and Armenia. Reports indicate ongoing provision of military hardware from India to Armenia, including multiple-launch rocket systems, anti-tank missiles, and radar systems. Additionally, joint military exercises and training programs are underway to enhance preparedness and interoperability between

their armed forces. These collaborative efforts facilitate the exchange of expertise and tactics, fostering effective coordination for potential future operations, from joint exercises to intelligence sharing, both nations are committed to showcasing their military capabilities and strengthening their strategic partnership.

Geopolitical Determinations: Armenia's pivotal role in the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) offers India diversified trade routes and enhanced access to Eurasian markets, bolstering strategic interests in economic resilience and geopolitical balancing. Conversely, India's military support for Armenia underscores its commitment to preserving regional peace and countering aggressive manoeuvres by the Turkey-Azerbaijan-Pakistan axis. Through the realisation of mutual interests, India and Armenia can reshape security dynamics in the South Caucasus

region by challenging the dominance of larger geopolitical actors and their support for rogue powers.

Turkey-Azerbaijan-Pakistan Axis: The Turkey-Azerbaijan-Pakistan axis poses a substantial threat to respective regional stability, with Turkey's unwavering support for Azerbaijan during the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict then raising concerns about potential escalations. The longstanding military partnership between Turkey and Pakistan, characterised by defence production, joint training exercises, and high-level military dialogues, underscores their concerted efforts to advance mutual geopolitical goals and exert influence in the regions. This axis represents a significant challenge to the security and stability of the South Caucasus and South Asian regions, as that axis seeks to consolidate its power and undermine the influence of other regional stakeholders.

Responses and Ongo-

ing Efforts: In response to the burgeoning influence of the Turkey-Azerbaijan-Pakistan axis, India's steadfast support for Armenia signifies a resolute stance against their aggressive manoeuvres in the region. Aimed at preserving a delicate balance of power, India and Armenia are all set to intensify their collaboration to address these threats.

While Turkey's stance on Kashmir validates the burgeoning Indo-Armenia defence cooperation, the nexus between Turkey's involvement in the Kashmir issue and Pakistan's alignment with Azerbaijan's agenda cannot be seen as a mere happenstance, rather a meticulously orchestrated strategy with far-reaching intention. In this backdrop, the urgent need for a meticulously planned multilateral defence partnership underscored. This becomes essential to counter the unholy Turkey-Pakistan-Azerbaijan axis thereby ensuring stability in both the Caucasus and

South Asian regions.

The Promising Prospects: The emerging strategic cooperation between India and Armenia holds immense promise for enhancing regional security and advancing shared interests. Both nations are poised to deepen their partnership and address prevailing challenges through concerted efforts in military collaboration and strategic alignments. India's steadfast support for Armenia underscores its dedication to maintaining peace and stability in the Caucasus region. With far-reaching implications for global geopolitical outcomes, the Indo-Armenia partnership has the potential to redefine the regional balance of power and contribute significantly to the stability and prosperity of both the Caucasus and South Asian regions.

(The writer is working with an Independent Think Tank, views are personal)

## EU-China relations at a crossroads

KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

Geo-political adjustments are getting done, bilaterally and plurilateral, even as the world's largest democracies are busy calming their domestic constituencies, where a key rallying agenda is China. The two largest democracies, India and the US, both of whom have their own set of issues with China, are in the middle of some of the most competitive election processes, ever seen across the globe. Meanwhile, the EU, or at least many of its member countries, not to mention US allies such as Australia are carefully recalibrating the entangled web of engagement with China.

It is by no coincidence that Chinese Premier Xi Jinping, was on a strategic three-nation tour of Europe, earlier this week. This tri-nation tour, during which the Chinese pre-

mier, also met the European Union president Ursula Von der Leyen, comes after a gap of almost 5 years and is also a time when many European nations have been blaming China for pushing highly subsidised electric vehicles into their markets, making several European auto factories redundant. The Europeans also wanted to focus on China playing a larger role in stabilising its "friends without limits" Russia, in the war against Ukraine, pushing up fuel-aided inflation across the region. The Europeans in the plain speak, they are known for, outlined clearly in the president's press statement, "the first topic where we exchanged views on was the geopolitical situation. We especially discussed Ukraine and the conflicts in the Middle East. We agree that Europe and China have a shared interest in peace and security.



We count on China to use all its influence on Russia to end Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. President Xi has played an important role in de-escalating Russia's irresponsible nuclear threats, and I am confident that President Xi will continue to do so against the backdrop of the ongoing nuclear threats by Russia. We have also discussed China's commitment not to provide any lethal equipment to Russia. More

effort is needed to curtail the delivery of dual-use goods to Russia that find their way to the battlefield. And given the existential nature of the threats stemming from this war for both Ukraine and Europe, this does affect the EU-China relations. "The message from the EU to China was, don't help Russia in its unjust war on European soil, or else the bilateral relation would be in trouble. No surprises, Ukraine and the Middle East didn't

feature, till the bottom three paragraphs of the press statement issued by the Chinese team, post the trilateral meeting.

Also no surprises with the language which read "On the Ukraine crisis, President Xi pointed out that China, France and the EU all wish to see an early ceasefire and return of peace in Europe, and support political settlement of the crisis. China has been working vigorously to facilitate talks for peace. China's objective and just position and its constructive role have been widely recognized by the international community. China is ready to stay in communication with relevant parties." The other significant element of these conversations was traded, as all parties involved are feeling the constraints of escalating fuel costs, the volatile geo-political environment and, the post-Covid, supply chain mismatch.

The EU provided sharp pointers on Chinese subsidised products, free and fair access to each other's markets and supply chain resiliency in their conversations. A defensive China maintained that the two sides have extensive common interests and broad space for cooperation in green and digital transition. It is necessary that they properly address economic and trade frictions through dialogue and consultation, and accommodate each other's legitimate concerns. China has started making, the right moves to woo back some of its largest market partners, at a time when India and the US, the other key stakeholders in the Indo-Pacific theatre, are busy with their elections. India will get over elections in about a month, and an agile nimble China policy outlook awaits.

(The writer is a policy analyst; views are personal)

## Bajrang reiterates 'he didnt refused to give dope test', says NADA failed to respond to his query

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, MAY 10

Tokyo Olympics bronze medalist freestyle wrestler Bajrang Punia reiterated that he didn't refused to give dope test and it was NADA which failed to give answers to his query on sending expired kits for dope test. Punia has been provisionally suspended by the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) for failing to provide a urine sample during the trials held in Sonapat on March 10. Following reports of his provisional suspension order, the wrestler clarified that he never "refused to give his sample" and requested NADA officials for a response about the expired kit which they had sent to collect my sample.

The freestyle wrestler, who competes in the 65-kg weight category, on Friday reiterated his stance in a long post on 'X', and said NADA did not provide an answer to any of his communications, demanding an explanation on sending an expired testing kits, adding that he informed officials he would give his sample upon "receiving such explanation from them."

"This is to clarify that, I have at no stage refused to give my sample for doping control. On 10 March 2024, when I was approached by alleged doping control officials, I merely reminded them that the last two times they came to collect my sample, they had



gotten expired kits once and on the other instance, they had approached me with a single testing kit as opposed to the three testing kits," the post read.

"I then sought an answer from them as the NADA did not provide an answer to any of my communications demanding an explanation for the same and informed them that I would give my sample upon receiving such explanation from them. Not only did the doping control officials refuse to provide an explanation, they did not provide me any proof on this instance of them carrying proper equipment and merely left from the venue where I was at, claiming it to be a refusal from my end.

"I continued to be at the venue as I had another bout scheduled for 3/4 position. After my semifinals bout, I met the SAI doctor at the venue for treatment regarding a knee injury suffered during the semi-finals of the Wrestling Trials. I only left the venue about an hour after the alleged

doping control officials approached me, contrary to how it has been portrayed, that I left immediately," it further read.

"In fact the dope controlling officer should have accompanied me till I submitted my medical report to the competition manager as per protocol, rather than leaving in a hurry in middle of the trials, to record my refusal. Even if this incident is treated as refusal, the fact that it was due to NADA using expired kits and not providing an explanation for using them, or giving me comfort, that they had not carried expired kits again, should be considered as a compelling justification.

"I took such a stance solely because of the NADAs actions in the past, which, in the absence an explanation, could continue a dangerous trend of the use of expired kits or non-compliance with doping control protocol. It is my moral obligation towards the wrestling community and particularly the younger wrestlers, that I exercised here," it read.

## Jyothi Yarraji wins 100 hurdles gold in Holland, misses Olympic berth by 0.10 secs

AGENCIES  
MUMBAI, MAY 10

Indian athlete Jyothi Yarraji won the women's 100m hurdles event at the Harry Schulting Games 2024 athletics meet in Vught, Netherlands on Thursday. However, she was unlucky to miss the qualification mark for the Paris Olympic Games by one-tenth of a second.

In her first event of the outdoor season in Europe, Asian Games silver medalist Jyothi clocked 12.87 seconds to win the gold medal, finishing ahead of Dutch hurdler Mira Groot, who ended second in 13.67 seconds with another Dutch runner Hanna



van Baast who finished in 13.84 seconds.

In finishing first and clocking 12.87, Yarraji missed the entry standard for the Olympics, set at 12.77s, by 0.10 seconds.

Earlier in the day,

ing short of the qualifying mark by one-hundredth of a second when she set the national record of 12.78 for a bronze medal at the World University Games in Chengdu, China. Jyothi, who had done well in the Asian Indoor season earlier in the year, will be participating in five more events during the Olympic qualifying period which will end on June 30 this year.

Meanwhile, Indian male hurdler Tejas Shirse won the 110m hurdles in the same meet with a personal best timing of 13.56 seconds, finishing ahead of local Dutch athlete Joas van Hellemond (13.80 secs) and Jamie Sesay (13.92 secs).

## Funding boosted for Australian Institute of Sport ahead of 2032 Brisbane Olympics

AGENCIES  
CANBERRA, MAY 10

The Australian government has announced a funding boost for the nation's high-performance sports institute ahead of the 2032 Brisbane Olympics.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said on Friday that a 249.7 million Australian dollar (165 million U.S. dollar) upgrade for the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) in Canberra will give Australian athletes the best chance of winning gold at the 2032 Games.

An independent review of the AIS handed to the government in February recommended that it should remain in Canberra rather than relocate to Brisbane in the lead-up to the Olympics but found its facilities were in need of an upgrade before the Games.

The new funding will go towards building a new high-performance training and testing center, new accommodation and a multi-sport indoor training facility at the existing AIS site in Canberra's northern suburbs, reports Xinhua.

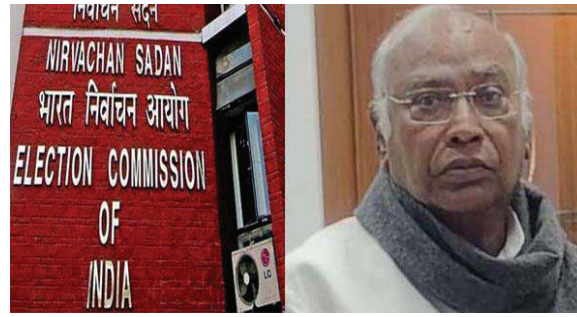
"The upcoming Budget will ensure the Australian Institute of Sport remains in the Capital, where it belongs, and ensure it once again becomes the world-leading high-performance center it was designed to be," Albanese said in a statement.

## ECI terms Kharge's comments on elections process as unwarranted

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, MAY 10

The Election Commission of India on Friday strongly criticised Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge for questioning the integrity of the electoral process, saying it is "highly undesirable" to create confusion and impediment to the conduct of smooth, free and fair election. In a five-page response, the poll panel rejected charges of mismanagement and delay in the release of voter turnout data and termed Kharge's allegations "unwarranted", "without facts" and "reflective of a biased and deliberate attempt to spread confusion".

The strong worded response came from the poll body after the Congress President raised questions



over the conduct of ongoing Lok Sabha elections. On Tuesday, Mallikarjun Kharge wrote to the leaders of various parties of the opposition INDIA bloc, questioning the alleged discrepancies in the voting data released by the Election Commission. Kharge urged the INDIA bloc leaders to raise their voice against such alleged discrepancies, for "our only objective is to protect the culture of a vibrant. However, the

Commission categorically rejected Kharge's contentions, dismissing them as insinuations and innuendos lacking any factual basis.

"Through innuendos and insinuations, the contents of the post, tend to create disharmony in respect of the delicate space of election management, can plant doubts in the minds of voters and political parties and potentially created an anarchic situation, when

you said 'could this be an attempt to doctor the final results?' which this Commission hopes you do not have any intention of," the EC said.

Utterances can have a negative impact on voters' participation and demoralize the large election machinery across states, it added. In a point by point rebuttals of Kharge's claims, ECI asserted that there have been no lapses or deviations in the collection and dissemination of voter turnout data. The poll panel said it found Kharge's letter, placed in the public domain in the middle of the ongoing electoral process, "highly undesirable" and designed to create confusion, misdirection and impediment to the conduct of smooth, free and fair elections.

## AIFF Internal Complaints Committee submits report; AIFF approaches Cyber Crime Unit

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, MAY 10

In light of some reports in a section of the media on the recent leak of confidential data about employees of the All India Football Federation (AIFF), the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) of the AIFF received a complaint on the issue.

The complaint of leaking of information was made by an employee who has filed a complaint of sexual harassment against a co-worker. The victim had alleged that the data leak had breached the confidentiality of AIFF's inquiry into her allegations.

The ICC, on Friday, met at the Football House here. After extensive deliberations, the committee submitted its report which said: "The current crop of allegations regarding the breach of confidentiality and IT policies, if any, do not come under the pur-



view of the ICC.

"The ICC further suggests that the AIFF must take quick action against all kinds of breaches, whether relating to confidentiality or otherwise, to safeguard the rights of its staff," the report said.

Meanwhile, the AIFF, on Tuesday (May 7), had registered an official complaint with the Cyber Crime Unit of the Delhi Police, on the said allegations. The AIFF shall provide unconditional support to the authority and is hopeful that a positive outcome shall arise once the investigation is com-

pleted.

The AIFF Acting Secretary General, M. Satyanarayan said, "We are fully committed to upholding the integrity and confidentiality of all our staff members who we keep in high regard. "In light of the complaint received, we are doing everything to take things to a logical conclusion. Apart from the ICC meeting, we have already filed an official complaint with the Cyber Crime Unit of the Delhi Police who have assured us of all help to get to the root of the problem at the earliest," the report said.

## SC grants interim bail to Kejriwal till June 1

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, MAY 10

The Supreme Court on Friday granted interim bail to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal till June 1 in the Excise policy case.

A bench comprising Justice Sanjive Khanna and Justice Dipankar Datta granted interim bail to Kejriwal on the condition that he furnishes a bail bond in the sum of Rs 50,000/- with one surety of the like amount to the satisfaction of the Jail Superintendent.

The Apex Court directed that Kejriwal shall not visit the Office of the Chief Minister and the Delhi Secretariat and he shall be bound by the statement made on his behalf that he shall not sign official files unless it is required and necessary for obtaining clearance/ approval of the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi.

The Court directed that Kejriwal will not make any comment concerning his role in the present case, and he will not interact with any of the witnesses and/or have access to any official files connected with the case.

"The grant of interim bail will not be treated as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case or the criminal appeal which is pending consideration before us," the court said.

While granting the bail the Apex Court said, "At this stage, it is not possible for us to either conclude the arguments on the plea of Kejriwal challenging his arrest or finally pronounce the judgment."

"However, there is an intervening factor which has prompted us to consider and pass the present order, namely, 18th Lok Sabha General Elections,



which are in progress," the bench said.

The Bench said, "As the appeal is pending before us, we do not think it would be proper for us to direct the appellant - Arvind Kejriwal to approach the trial court for interim bail/release. This may not be apt because of the legal issues and contentions that are under examination and consideration before us."

The bench said, "It is no gain saying that General Elections to Lok Sabha is the most significant and important event this year, as it should be in a national election year."

"Between 650-700 million voters out of an electorate of about 970 million will cast their votes to elect the government of this country for the next five years. General Elections supply the vis viva to a democracy," the bench said.

The Court further said, "Given the prodigious importance, we reject the argument raised on behalf of the prosecution that grant of interim bail/release on this account would be giving premium of placing the politicians in a beneficent position compared to ordinary citizens of this country."

The Court said, "While examining the question of grant of interim bail/release, the courts always take into consideration the peculiarities associated with the person in question and the surrounding circumstances. To ignore the same would be iniquitous and wrong."

The Bench said, "We will now refer to some case law on the power to grant interim bail/release, which power is exercised routinely even by the trial courts."

The quote cited a judgement In Mukesh Mishra v. State of West Bengal in which the Apex Court had held that the power to grant regular bail includes the power to grant interim bail, particularly given Article 21 of the Constitution of India.

Quoting another judgement In Sunil Fulchand Shah v. Union of India and Others in which the Apex Court observed that parole by way of temporary release can be granted by the Government or its functionaries in case of detenus under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974.

The Supreme Court Bench said, "Further, the High Courts and this Court can direct temporary release of a detenu for specified reasons in a judgement - Mohinder Singh Gill and Another v. Chief Election Commissioner, New Delhi and Others, (1978) which said when the request is unjustifiably rejected by the authorities."

However, the power of temporary release of a detenu suffering preventive detention is exercised only in extreme and deserving cases. The Apex Court said, "The expression "interim" bail is not defined in the Code. It is an innovation by legal neologism which has gained acceptance and recognition. The terms, "interim" bail/"interim" suspension of sentence, have been used and accepted as part of the legal vocabulary and are well-known expressions."

The Court said, "The appellant - Arvind Kejriwal is the Chief Minister of Delhi and a leader of one of the national parties. No doubt, serious accusations have been made, but he has not been convicted. He does not have any criminal antecedents. He is not a threat to the society. The investigation in the present case has remained pending since August 2022."

the arrest itself are under challenge before this Court and we are yet to finally pronounce on the same. The fact situation cannot be compared with the harvesting of crops or plea to look after business affairs."

"In this background, once the matter is sub-judice and the questions relating to the legality of arrest are under consideration, a more holistic and libertarian view is justified, in the background that the 18th Lok Sabha General Elections are being held," the Bench said.

The Apex Court then referred to the judgment on behalf of the DoE: (i) In Anukul Chandra Pradhan v. Union of India and Others in which the Apex Court rejected the constitutional challenge to sub-section (5) to Section 62 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, observing that the right to vote is not a constitutional right and that the right can be curtailed.

The bench said, "Interestingly, the proviso to the said sub-section states that a person subjected to preventive detention can vote. The prohibition was upheld on several grounds, including, that it promotes the object of free and fair elections. Indeed there are decisions of this Court that advert to the importance of elections in democracy, described as the barometer and life-line of the parliamentary system and its setup."

The Supreme Court after citing several other judgements finally directed that Arvind Kejriwal will be released on interim bail in connection with a case filed by ED on August 22, 2022, till June 1, 2024, that is, he will surrender on June 2, 2024.

The Court further said, "Arvind Kejriwal was arrested, on March 21, 2024. More importantly, the legality and validity of

## Frame sexual harassment charge against Ex. WFI Chief Brij Bhushan Saran Singh: Court

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, MAY 10

A Delhi Court after hearing on Friday ordered to frame a sexual charge against former Wrestling Federation of India Chief and BJP MP Brij Bhushan Saran Singh in the matter related to alleged sexual harassment of five female wrestlers.

Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (ACMM) Priyanka Rajpoot after hearing found sufficient



material to frame charges against accused Brij Bhushan Saran Singh for the offences under section 354 and 354D of the Indian Penal Code".

The court has also framed charges under section 506 part 1 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) against Sharan Singh.

The ACMM had earlier dismissed the application of Sharan Singh seeking further probe in the matter on the ground that he was not in the country on the date when the offence of harassment was alleged and listed the matter on May, 10 for deciding the issue of charge.

## President confers Padma Shri on Shri Romalo Ram of J&K in field of Art during Civil Investiture Ceremony

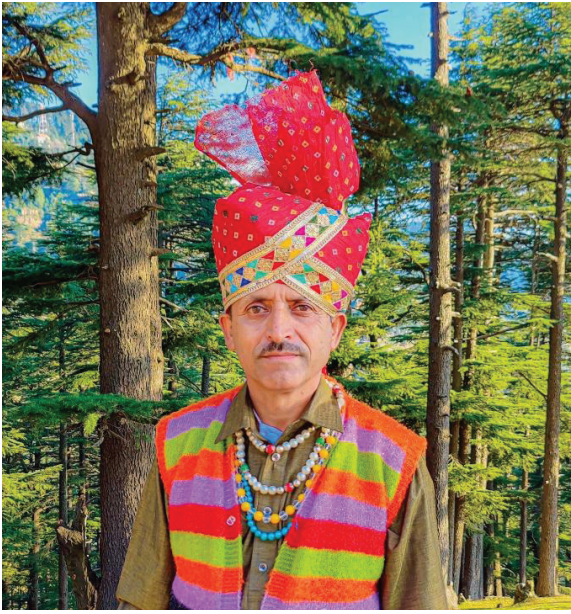
J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 10

The President of India Smt Droupadi Murmu conferred Padma Shri to Shri Romalo Ram of Jammu & Kashmir in the field of Art during the Civil Investiture Ceremony in New Delhi today.

Brief citations about the life and work of the awardee is given below- Shri Romalo Ram (Padma Shri)

Romalo Ram is a Dogri Folk Artist of Jammu Region and is known as the real founder of Dogri Folk Song Geetru who revived the dying Folk Form "Geetru and Bhakh" with his dedication and hard work.

Born on 3rd March 1963, Shri Ram received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1985 from the University of Jammu. After graduation, he joined as a Government Teacher in 1987 and also started writing Dogri Poems & Folk Songs. He served almost in the remote areas for the better education particularly of the village students. Hereafter as ZEO Ramnagar in March, 2023. Shri Ram started performing Dogri folk in 1980-81 under the banner "Romalo Ram and



Party" by participating in local functions. He served across the Jammu Region for so long and started a new revolution by the name of "Mission Maa Dogri". His "Mission maa Dogri" Model has become the foundation for the huge success of young aspirants of the region. More than 150 pupils are working & learning the traditional art.

Shri Ram published a book named as "Geetruyen Di Fouhar". His works were published in various newspapers such as Dogri Times, Daily Excelsior, State Times, Amar

Ujala, Dainik Jagran, The Earth News, The News Now etc. His contribution in the form of Cassettes, Records and published articles is the proof of his excellence in the field. He was approved as a B-grade artist in all India radio (AIR) Jammu in 1988 and in 1995 approved a B-high grade Jammu. He acted as a member of General Council Committee of JKAACL to represent Dogri folk music and remained the active member of Advisory Sub Committee for folk music nominated by Jammu and Kashmir Academy of art

culture and languages. He acted as brand ambassador of SVEEP program of district Udhampur and Reasi in Lok Sabha and legislative Assembly election 2014.

Shri Ram is the recipient of numerous awards and honors. He has been conferred honorary "Gold Medal" in the Folk Song Competition in National Youth Festival, 1999 in Lucknow, UP. The UT Government conferred on him "State Award" for his pioneering role in performing Arts of JK in 2022. JK Sopori Academy of Music and Performing Arts at New Delhi honored him by "Samapanund Rishi Samman" in 2018. Doodarshan Jammu and Montage film industry felicitated him by "Virasat Shri" in Jashan-a-Virasat, 2013. He received Certificate of appreciations from various government agencies for different cultural participations. He received Lok Kala Rattan Purashkar, 2019 in Akhil Bhartiya Lok kala Mahotsav organized by Karnataka Sahasa Kala Academy. In 2017, he was honored by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board and J&K Tourism Department at Katra in Navratra Festival.

## MBD Group unveils science stream books for classes IX-XII

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 10

MBD Group, a pioneer in the education sector with over six decades of experience, announced the book launch programme for Science books for Classes 9th-12th, specifically tailored for students in Jammu & Kashmir.

Under the visionary leadership of Ms. Monica Malhotra Kandhari, the company remains steadfast in its commitment to providing quality education to all. With a mission to create an 'MBD product for every literate person,' MBD Group strives to create a book for every learner, be it physical or digital.

Reflecting on the company's journey, Ms. Monica Malhotra Kandhari, MD, AASOKA & MBD Group remarks, "At MBD Group, our founder's vision guides all our endeavours. Keeping in line with the vision, every effort is made to create educational resources for students to help them climb the ladder of success at every step. With the launch of our latest Science books, the 'All in One' series for Classes 9th-12th in Jammu



& Kashmir, we aim to transform the learning experience for students in the region. By providing them with comprehensive and quality resources that are easily accessible to all, we pave the way for academic excellence. We believe that these new books will instil in students a renewed zest for learning and build a strong foundation for their scientific journey."

The book launch programme featured esteemed guests of honour, including Sh. Ganesh Khajuria, Chairman of All J&K Teachers Forum; Sh. Pardeep

Singh, Senior Lecturer and President of J&K + 2 Lec. Forum; and Sh. R. S. Salathia, Chairman of J&K + 2 Lec. Forum.

For students in Jammu & Kashmir, MBD introduced the 'All in One' book series for classes 11 and 12. As the name suggests, this complete resource will provide the student with a chapter summary with solved questions, explanations, model test papers, sample questions, and previous and current board papers in one place. This comprehensive series will comprise books on Physics, Chemistry, and Biology meticulously crafted

to align with the nationalized syllabi from NCERT/CBSE and JKBOSE.

Additionally, MBD Group unveiled Modern's abc Of 'All in One - Science' book, designed for classes 9 and 10. This publication integrates Physics, Chemistry, and Life Science into a single volume, following the latest syllabus prescribed by JKBOSE and NCERT. Mr. Praveen Singh, CEO, AASOKA, along with the key leaders from MBD Group, including Mr. Sanjay Bhat, GM- Sales, Jammu and Mr. Rajan Magotra, BM, Jammu graced the event with their presence.

## IMFA Students to participate in International Art Residency

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 10

Two students of Department of Sculpture, Institute of Music & Fine Arts (IMFA), University of Jammu, Zarina Parveen and Kundan Gyatso have been invited by 'sa Ladakh' - an organization based in Ladakh Valley, to participate in the prestigious International Art Residency programme, followed by Art Exhibition in Disko Valley Park, Leh (Ladakh, India) from 1st to 10th June, 2024.

Prof. Shohab Inayat Malik, Principal, Institute of Music & Fine Arts (IMFA), University of Jammu has congratulated Zarina Parveen

and Kundan Gyatso on this achievement and wished them to create enchanting art work in the beautiful and fragile landscape in the Himalayas.

According to Prof. Shohab Inayat Malik, the students will get international exposure during this event as they will work with contemporary artists of various nations including Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, USA and India.

The theme of installation to be executed by



Zarina Parveen during the Residency, revolves around the 'Childhood Memories'. Her work delineates Burden/Struggle in life. The theme of Installation to be executed by Kundan Gyatso during the Residency is aimed at the 'Traditional Rituals in Local Farming' and to

make the upcoming generation aware about the customs, traditions and rituals of folklore with nuances. Most of his works are inspired by Himalayan Architecture and the lifestyle of the people in Ladakh Valley.

Zarina Parveen and Kundan Gyatso have studied Visual Arts/ Sculpture, under the guidance of mentor Sh. Sukhjeet Singh Kukkal, Senior Instructor, Jasleen Singh, Lecturer and Trishla Kumari, Lecturer, Department of Sculpture, IMFA, University of Jammu.

## KU harbours conducive ecosystem for start-ups, entrepreneurship: VC

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 10

To encourage a culture of self-reliance and employability, the University of Kashmir (KU), is consistently nurturing the entrepreneurial spirit among its students, including local youth, by empowering them through innovative initiatives in skill development, start-ups and entrepreneurship.

To give it a final shape and form, the New Generation Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Centre (NewGen IEDC), University of Kashmir (KU), Thursday organised an interaction session with the recently shortlisted start-ups here.

The start-ups were shortlisted following a 3-day 'Spring Start-up Challenge' workshop held from March 25-27, 2024 and organized by the varsity's NewGen IEDC Incubation Centre.

KU Vice Chancellor, Prof Nilofar Khan, chaired the session attended by Registrar, Prof Naseer Iqbal; Dean College Development Council, Prof Khursheed Ahmad Butt; Director, Institute of Technology (IoT), Zakura, Prof Tariq Ahmad Bandy; Special Secretary to KU VC, Dr Ashfaq Ahmad Zarri; Coordinator of NewGen IEDC, Dr Sartaj Hussain and Nodal Officer, NewGen IEDC, Dr Parvez Ahmad Shah.

"The groundwork for this collaborative endeavour was laid during the 'Spring Start-up Challenge' that garnered an overwhelming



response, attracting a total of 40 start-ups, innovators and aspiring entrepreneurs from diverse sectors," an official spokesperson said in a statement issued here.

Following rigorous evaluation, a dozen promising start-ups were shortlisted for further handholding, mentorship and other necessary assistance by the university, he said.

"The interaction included exchange of ideas, as the participants discussed resource requirements and strategies for upscaling their ventures," the statement read.

The start-up ideas cover domains, including clean energy, agritech, retail and e-commerce, healthcare, cloud kitchen and environmental sustainability.

On the occasion, KU Vice Chancellor, Prof Nilofar Khan underlined the varsity's endeavours in nurtur-

ing a conducive ecosystem for start-ups and entrepreneurship within its campuses.

"The university's proactive engagement with the start-up community reflects its dedication to drive socio-economic growth through innovation and enterprise," Prof Khan said, adding that as the journey of the future start-ups unfolds, the university stands firm in empowering them to realize their full potential and make meaningful contributions to the society.

She asserted KU's commitment in providing comprehensive support to budding entrepreneurs, leveraging its academic resources, industry partnerships and infrastructural facilities.

KU Registrar, Prof Naseer Iqbal, emphasised the importance of skill and start-up development in

the region and said that the varsity's partnership with industry and government agencies ensures that the students are well-prepared to meet the demands of the job market.

"Our university is mentoring the start-ups and sponsoring them wherever necessary while simultaneously emphasising practical skills and a culture of innovation," Prof Naseer Iqbal added.

The varsity's initiatives include incubation centres, entrepreneurship development programmes, workshops and seminars conducted in collaboration with industry experts and mentors. These initiatives aim to provide students with hands-on experience, mentorship, and networking opportunities to turn their ideas into successful ventures, read the statement.

## Bajaj Finserv to launch India's first multi-asset fund with dividend yield strategy

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI/PUNE, MAY 9

Bajaj Finserv Asset Management Limited (Bajaj Finserv AMC) has announced the launch of Bajaj Finserv Multi Asset Allocation Fund, an open-ended scheme designed to provide investors with a diversified investment avenue. This fund offers exposure to various asset classes including equity with high dividend yield strategy, debt with dynamic duration management, commodities, and real estate investment trusts (REITs) or infrastructure investment trusts (InvITs).

Bajaj Finserv Multi Asset Allocation Fund provides investors with a unique opportunity to access multiple asset classes through a single investment avenue. It maintains a diversified portfolio with an equity allocation ranging from 35% to 80%, employing a dividend yield strategy, multi-theme & multi-sector approach, and multi-cap orientation. The fund allocates 10% to 55% to fixed income instruments, employing dynamic duration management with macro and quantitative

inputs, while emphasizing quality portfolio and a safety-first approach. Furthermore, it allocates 10% to 55% to commodities, providing exposure to gold ETFs, silver ETFs, and exchange-traded commodity derivatives, thereby offering upside potential and acting as a hedge against equity volatility. Also, the fund may allocate 0% to 10% to REITs/InvITs, focusing on investments for regular income, diversification, and an opportunistic approach.

Speaking on the launch of the product, Mr. Ganesh Mohan, CEO, Bajaj Finserv AMC, said "Bajaj Finserv Multi Asset Allocation Fund provides investors with a unique opportunity to access multiple asset classes through a single investment avenue. It is India's first Multi Asset Fund to offer a dividend yield strategy that aims to provide a combination of stability and growth to investors. The fund's asset allocation decisions are driven by a comprehensive evaluation of macro-economic factors, valuation metrics, and investor behaviour. The investment

philosophy, INQUBE, focuses on gaining an information edge, quantitative edge, and behavioural edge to outperform the market. Our aim is to offer a well-rounded portfolio that can navigate through various market scenarios and deliver consistent returns."

Nimesh Chandan, CIO, Bajaj Finserv AMC highlighted the fund's investment strategy, saying, "We believe in a disciplined approach to asset allocation, considering macro-economic factors, valuation metrics, and investor behaviour. Our focus on dividend yield-based investing in the current scenario has the potential to minimise impact against volatility and maximise returns for the investors. Investors who are seeking reasonable returns, professional asset allocation, and an all-weather investment avenue with low volatility compared to pure equity funds can consider Bajaj Finserv Multi Asset Allocation Fund."

The fund will be jointly managed by Nimesh Chandan and Sorbh Gupta on the Equity side, Nimesh

Chandan and Siddharth Chaudhary on the Fixed Income side and Vinay Bafna on Commodities Investment.

The new fund offer will open for initial subscription on 13th May, and close on 27th May 2024. After that, it would be open for subscription on an on-going basis on or before 6th June 2024.

Entry load - not applicable

Exit load - For each purchase of units through Lumpsum / switch-in / Systematic Investment Plan (SIP) and Systematic Transfer Plan (STP), exit load will be as follows:

- if units are redeemed / switched out within 1 year from the date of allotment:
  - o up to 30% of units allotted are redeemed/switched out - Nil
  - o any redemption / switch-out of units in excess of 30% of units allotted - 1% of applicable NAV

If units purchased or switched in from another scheme of the Fund are redeemed or switched out after 1 year from the date of allotment, no exit load is payable.

## Gurmeet Singh welcomes Bhagwan Parshuram ji Rath Yatra

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 11

The Parshuram ji Rath Yatra was heartily welcomed by Gurmeet Singh President Beopar Mandal and Gen. Sect. JKPC, a senior congress leader and shopkeepers of Rajinder Bazar Jammu with great pump and show. The prashad in a big thaal was also presented which was distributed among the devotees.

Dogra Brahmin Pratinidhi Sabha today took out Lord Parshuram Jayanti Shobha

Yatra from Chanakya Chowk Jammu. Several tableaux of Lord Parshuram were seen in decorated vehicles/trolleys during the Shobha Yatra particularly known as "Jhanki".

Prominent personalities including people from all walks of life including a large number of women and children participated in the Shobha Yatra.

As usual every year the Rath Yatra is welcomed by the association of the Rajinder bazar and many times the Brahman sabha has Awarded to Gurmeet Singh on this occa-

sion. We again welcome and pray God to celebrate such birthday of God Parshuram Ji every year with enthusiasm.

Parshurama was an incarnation of Lord Vishnu. He was born before the birth of Lord Shri Ram. It is believed that Lord Parshurama was born in the first prahar of the day and night of Vaishakh Shukla Tritiya. The time of birth of Parshuram ji is considered to be the sandhi period of Satyug and Treta. Parshuram ji, the supreme devotee of Lord Shiva, is considered the god

of justice.

Besides to the S.Gurmeet Singh, President Beopar Mandal and Gen. Sect. JKPC, other members who accompanied in are S.Hardavinder Singh, Harbans Lal Gupta, Gupta Bartan Store, Shami Sharma, Ashu Sharma, Ashok kumar, Des raj Gupta & sons, Hardeep Singh Arora, Bodh Raj, Ashok Kumar, Chandee Singh, Akash Gupta, Bablu, Namit Gupta, Subhash Gupta, Amit Gupta, Moti Lal kamotra, Hardeep Singh, Amit desraj, Jatinder Singh and others.



## Youth, business community frustrated under Present regime: NC

J1NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 10

National Conference is committed to ensure peace, progress, prosperity, stability and equality among all the sections of the society in Jammu and Kashmir, said Ankush Abrol Joint Secretary Jammu Province JKNC while addressing a meeting at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan. The meeting was organized by Zonal Secretary and Coordinator Jammu District (Urban) Dr Vikas Sharma.

While speaking on the occasion, Ankush Abrol urged upon the youth to get ready for playing a vital role to bring change. He said that the present scenario of J&K has pushed the youth towards depression and anxiety as they are worried about their future presently looming in darkness.

"Unemployment among youth has also impacted the life of the educated



youth who are concerned about their career for which their parents are in a doldrums and deeply worried about their children", he added.

Abrol criticised the stoppage of 'Darbar Move' practice as immoral by the government because it has adversely affected the business community. "The business community, small traders and commoners are all suffering due to policy paralysis and deep rooted corruption at all levels.

"The law and order sit-

uation has deteriorated, the business community is incurring losses, unemployment rate is highest in the country, corruption and scams are happening everywhere, administrators & bureaucrats are not being held accountable. This is the state of affairs in J&K," Abrol said.

Zonal Secretary JKNC, Dr Vikas Sharma while speaking on the occasion said that it was under NC's rule that the erstwhile state was among top states of our country. He said that from unemployment to lit-

eracy Jammu and Kashmir was and is in a far better position than other states of India. He lambasted those dividing people in the name of religion and region. He said that the time has come to defeat such forces and strengthen the hands of Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Jenab Omar Abdullah for lasting peace in the Union Territory.

Slamming the JK Govt, Dr Vikas said that those who raise their voice against the faulty policies of the Govt, their genuine voice is suppressed by iron

hands and harassed by different agencies implicating them in false cases, he bemoaned.

He reiterated the resolve of the NC party to put in backbreaking and painstaking efforts to restore statehood keeping the destructive elements at bay.

Sahil Kerni Secretary Jammu District (Urban) Youth National Conference while speaking on the occasion said that National Conference had always worked to provide more and more employment opportunities to the youth of Jammu and Kashmir. Various employment schemes like Rehbar-e-Talim, Rehbar-e-Khel, Rehbar-e-Zirat etc were launched by the NC government.

Others who spoke on the occasion were Randhir Singh, Gurnam Singh, Vinod Kumar, Vicky Mehra, Abhishek Gupta, Ridham Charak, Rahul Sharma and others.

## Secretary (Power) GOI, CMD-NHPC, review CVPPPL Projects in Kishtwar, J&K

J1NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 10

Pankaj Agarwal, Secretary (Power) Govt. of India, along with Rajendra Prasad Goyal, CMD - NHPC Ltd. and Raj Kumar Chaudhary, Director (Technical & Projects) - NHPC Ltd., were on a two-day visit to review all the hydropower projects of Chenab Valley Power Project Private Limited (CVPPPL) being developed in the Chenab basin region of Jammu & Kashmir.

During the visit, Pankaj Agarwal, Secretary (Power) took stock of various construction activities of Ratle Hydroelectric Project (850 MW). Thereafter, the dignitaries visited Kishtwar and took a review meeting wherein Ramesh Mukhiya, MD, CVPPPL and heads of all the projects were present.

In the meeting, Vishal Anand, HoP-Pakal Dul; Ramesh Ojha, HoP-Kiru; S.K. Giri, HoP-Kwar & Rajendra Kumar, HOP-Kirthai-II has appraised the progress of the project through presentation.



Suprakash Adhikari, ED (RO Jammu), A.K. Nauriyal, CEO Ratle H.E. Project and Suresh Kumar, HoP-Dulhasti were also present in the said meeting.

Secretary (Power) impressed upon all the stakeholders to put in their best efforts to commission the projects at the earliest. The dignitaries also visited all the projects and

acknowledged the efforts being made by the executing agencies.

CVPPPL has been entrusted with 3094 MW of cumulative capacity works comprising three under-construction projects namely Pakal Dul, Kiru & Kwar alongwith one Survey & Investigation project i.e. Kirthai-II in Kishtwar region.

## Obstruction, sabotage attempts of BJP's led admin can't stop tsunami wave of NC: Rattan Lal

J1NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU MAY 10

Rattan Lal Gupta, the Provincial President of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC), vehemently denounced the administration's blatant attempts to obstruct the political campaign of Party Vice-President and NC candidate for Lok Sabha Polls, Omar Abdullah in the Baramulla constituency when permission was granted to hold rallies and public meetings from 9th of May to 18 of May, 2024 the last day of campaign. Such actions not only undermine democratic principles but also reveal the ruling party's desperation to suppress opposition voices.

In a statement issued here today, the senior NC leader emphasized that the police directives to rescheduling the programmes of election canvassing in the

Baramulla constituency from 11th to 13th was a blatant attempt aimed at sabotaging the democratic process and undermining the integrity of Omar Abdullah's campaign. This deliberate obstruction not only reflects the desperation of political opponents but also highlights their fear of the overwhelming support the National Conference is garnering across the Kashmir Valley, Poonch and Rajouri Districts.

Rattan Lal Gupta asserted that the remarkable response received by the National Conference throughout the Kashmir Valley, Poonch and Rajouri Districts has evidently rattled its adversaries, compelling them to resort to desperate measures in their futile attempt to hinder the party's momentum and Sunami wave in favour of NC Candidates. By obstructing the NC's campaign

efforts, these opponents only expose their collective inability to resonate with the sentiments of the electorate. He asserted that the political rivals of National Conference or we can say the A, B & C teams of BJP have chosen to hide behind the veil of BJP led administration, utilizing it as a shield to shield themselves from the legitimate aspirations of the people.

Rattan Lal emphasised that if the BJP was confident of its claims on 'development and normalcy', then the party should field its candidates instead of fiddling its proxy candidates in three seats in the Kashmir Valley. He claimed that BJP has damaged the democracy in Jammu and Kashmir as more than ten years have passed since last assembly polls were held.

The Provincial President appealed directly to the Election Commission

of India (ECI), urging its intervention to prevent the recurrence of such disruptive actions and to ensure the smooth conduct of democratic processes. He implored the ECI to uphold the principles of fairness and transparency by permitting the NC candidate, Omar Abdullah, to hold rallies unhindered in the Baramulla constituency.

Meanwhile, Rattan Lal Gupta has responded strongly to the irresponsible statement made by BJP leader Tarun Chugh, targeting the National Conference over dynasty politics.

He expressed deep concern over Chugh's remarks, particularly highlighting the absence of any BJP candidate in the electoral fray, raising questions about Chugh's credibility and relevance in Kashmir Parliamentary elections. The absence of BJP candidates in the region underscores

the party's reluctance to engage in the democratic process, rendering Chugh's role in the region immaterial.

The senior NC leader reiterated that the contributions of the National Conference to the progress and welfare of Jammu and Kashmir are unparalleled. He emphasized that across three generations, the NC has remained steadfast in its commitment to serving the people of the region. Furthermore, he highlighted the immense sacrifices made by the NC cadre to uphold democracy and protect the rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

These sacrifices, he noted, are a testament to the NC's unwavering dedication to preserving the democratic fabric of the region. That is why people of Jammu and Kashmir respect and love from the core of their hearts Abdullah's families.

## CUKashmir's WEC organises workshop on "Ikigai"

J1NEWS SERVICE  
GANDERBAL, MAY 10

The Women's Empowerment Committee, Central University of Kashmir (CUKashmir) organised a workshop on "Ikigai", a Japanese term that blends two words: "iki" meaning "to live," and "gai" meaning "reason," which translates to "a reason to live," at varsity's Green campus here on Thursday.

IKIGAI is a concept that encourages people to discover what truly matters to them and to live a life filled with purpose and joy.

Vice-Chancellor, Prof. A Ravinder Nath, congratulated the WEC for organising the event and asked the student participants to interact thoroughly with the experts and seek answers to their queries.

Prof. Sandhya Tiwari, Director of International



and Corporate Affairs and Dean School of Languages, chaired the inaugural session, and emphasised the importance of such workshops in shaping students' future. At the heart of the workshop lies the Japanese concept of 'Ikigai' - the pursuit of one's reason for being, explained Prof. Tiwari. "The aim is to help participants align their passions, values, and professional aspirations, thus paving the way for a fulfilling life and career."

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Mir Insha Farooq, event coordinator and Sr Assistant Prof. said, "We have meticulously crafted a diverse lineup of ses-

sions led by experts to equip participants with practical knowledge and tools necessary for leading more fulfilling and happy lives."

Ms. Yasmine and Ms. Mahi, Co-founders of Roots Consulting India, shared their expertise during the workshop. Ms. Yasmine emphasised the importance of finding purpose amidst the stressors of the modern world, emphasizing that happiness stems from living a life aligned with one's true passions.

Dr. Gulafroz Jan, Sr Assistant Prof Department of Law, proposed the vote of thanks.

## Bhagwan Shri Parashurama is true ideal for youth: Sham Sharma

J1NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 10

On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Lord Parashurama, a grand event was organized at Shining Star High School, Mutthi, Jammu, by the Shri Kaliakh Jyotish avim Vednic sansthan Trust, Jammu and Kashmir. Special prayers, rituals, havan, bhajan-kirtan, and discussions were organized in honor of bhagwan Parashurama.

During the event, the program was chaired by renowned Swami Shri Hridayanand Giri Maharaj, with Chief Guest Shri Sham Lal Sharma (Former Minister of Jammu and Kashmir Government), Special Guest Shri Vikram Sharma (President Jammu and Kashmir High Court Bar Association, Jammu), Honorable Guest Shri R.K. Chhibber (Former Chairman of Jammu and Kashmir Bank, current member of the Board of Directors of Jammu and Kashmir Bank).

During the occasion, Sham Lal Sharma said that Lord Parashurama is



known for his strength, valor, courage, bravery, and devotion to Lord Parashurama ji. He emphasized the importance of drawing inspiration from his life and urged the youth to conserve the environment and keep the surroundings green. He highlighted that the youth are the future of India and the country's development relies on their shoulders. He praised the Trust for its invaluable contribution to promoting our culture, extending congratulations

to its chairman, Mahant Rohit Shastri.

Swami Shri Hridayanand Giri ji Maharaj stated that bhagwan Parashurama is the sixth incarnation of Lord Vishnu and one of the eight immortal characters mentioned in scriptures.

Vikram Sharma remarked that such events would provide society with a new direction, emphasizing Lord Parashurama's proficiency in both weapons and knowledge. He urged parents to

instill good values in their children and ensure they stay away from addictive substances.

During the event, recognition was given to individuals like Dr. Vikas Sharma (JKAS), Purushottam Shastri Vishisht, Subhash Nanda, Ramesh Sharma, Sunil Sharma and Dil Bahadur Singh Jamwal for their outstanding contributions to society.

The event concluded with a feast.

Present at the occasion were Pawan Khajuria Advocate J&K high court, Ajay Sharma, Prabodh Sharma, Naresh Raina, Uttam Chand Sharma, Prof. Sharad Chandra Sharma, Jagdev Singh Chib, Yash Seth, Rajinder Seth, Former Councillor Suraj Padha, Kudip Khajuria, Babloo Sharma, Chandher mohan Sharma, Jagmohan Sharma, Bobby Sharma, Raju Kumar Sharma, Kedar Sharma, Veer Vikram Sharma, Master Sukhdev Sharma, Madan Lal, Vicky Khajuria, Rajan Sharma, Sangeet Sharma, Ankush Sharma, and other esteemed citizens.

## Learn from Parashuram's unwavering dedication towards religion, truth: Kavinder



J1NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 10

Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta on Friday asked people to take lessons from Bhagwan Parshuram's unwavering dedication towards truth, righteousness and pursuit of justice.

Earlier, the BJP stalwart leader took part in the impressive Shobha Yatra taken out on the eve of Parshuram Jayanti here.

On the sidelines of the Yatra, the BJP senior functionary said that

Parshuram was a staunch upholder of dharma (righteousness) and is often depicted as someone who stood up against injustice and tyranny.

"His life teaches the importance of standing up for what is right, even in the face of adversity, which is true in today's world also", he said, adding that people should toe his principles to lead a life with dignity.

Kavinder said that the life of Bhagwan Parshuram teaches about the importance of dedication and perseverance in achieving the goals of life.

He said that Hindu culture is a treasure where there are numerous examples of such heroes from whom people can learn the virtues of life to make their life journeys meaningful and complete. He said that the life of Bhagwan Parshuram offers many valuable lessons for people, including the importance of righteousness, humility, discipline, forgiveness, and environmental stewardship.

Kavinder emphasized the contemporary relevance of Bhagwan Parshuram's principles,

particularly in confronting the challenges posed by anti-national forces working against the interests of the country. He underscored the need for a modern-day embodiment of Parshuram's resolve to combat the disruptive forces that threaten the unity and integrity of the nation. He urged the people to draw inspiration from Parshuram's unwavering commitment to righteousness and justice, advocating for a collective effort to uphold the values that safeguard the nation's prosperity and security.

## Jalali elected president as RKPAC conducts elections



JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 10

Rainawari Kashmiri Pandit Action Committee (RKPAC), the apex body to preserve, secure and maintain the temples, shrines, ashrams, properties, shopping complexes, cremation grounds and lands of all temples of the displaced Kashmiri Pandit community in Rainawari, Srinagar, Kashmir has elected its new office bearers after the free and fair elections held here today.

All the eight members who were contesting for different posts have been elected unanimously. The contestants who were elected unopposed for different posts include Bushan Lal Jalali as President, Surinder Kumar Kaul, Senior Vice-

President, Rakesh Kumar Hangloo, General Secretary, Dr Mahesh Kaul, Joint Secretary, Anil Kumar Kachroo, Treasurer, while Suman Sharma Mahaldar, Shibani Lal Kher and Krishan Ji Bhat were elected as Members.

Ravinder Razdan was the Election Authority, while the results were declared at the Sri Sri Sharika Chareshwari Jagat Amba Sanastha, Hari Parbat, Doke Paloura, Jammu by Ravinder Razdan who issued the official notification and announced the names of the elected candidates.

While speaking after being elected, Bushan Lal Jalali, President, RKPAC said, "The elected team of the RKPAC expresses sincere gratitude to the Kashmiri Pandit community of

Rainawari who have posed immense faith in the candidates for working towards upholding religious and cultural heritage of Rainawari Kashmir Pandits in exile. We are committed to safeguard all the temples, their lands and other properties that includes shopping complexes in and outside Rainawari, Srinagar. Our team has included a woman member as well, showing our commitments towards women empowerment. RKPAC has a rich legacy of striving to defeat the nefarious designs of the land sharks and subversives who are working overnight to usurp the temples and their lands in Rainawari. RKPAC will not allow these bounty hunters to succeed in their evil deeds.

## Grew Energy to set up 3.2 GW capacity manufacturing facility in Jammu & Kashmir with an investment of Rs 4500 crore

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 10

Grew Energy Pvt Ltd - a flagship venture of the Chiripal Group - is all set to establish a three-stage fully backward integrated manufacturing unit in Jammu & Kashmir. With a commitment to invest 4500 Cr, upon completion, this ultra-modern facility will have annual capacity of producing 3.2GW high-efficiency modules and 2.8GW ingots, wafers and cells.

Grew is India's first renewable energy player to establish a manufacturing facility in Jammu state. Located in Kathua, the high-tech facility will be as per international standards with world-class automated machinery, making Grew the first solar company in India to have such unique technology and a cutting-edge manufacturing facility.

The company conducted a groundbreaking ceremony today at the facility wherein Mr. Vinay Thadani, CEO and Director, Grew Energy, Shri Hardip Singh - COO, Grew Energy and other dignitaries from Chiripal group - Mr. Ved-Prakash Chiripal, JyotiPrasad Chiripal, JaiPrakash Chiripal and Brijmohan Chiripal amongst others



were present at the ceremony.

Grew has already started to pave new ways for J&K's economic landscape by choosing Kathua as the location for its second manufacturing unit. Spread over a total area of 80 acres, this facility will enable Grew to meet the future demands for the growing solar needs of Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, other neighbouring states and the country at large. The company will also drive positive change to empower communities, boost employment opportunities and upskilling the youth of the state.

Commenting on this auspicious occasion of the groundbreaking ceremony, Mr. Vinay Thadani - CEO and Director,

Grew Energy said, "As we embark on this transformative journey, we at Grew are grateful to the Government for the welcome and being so supportive. The new plant will not only add to the socio-economic development of the state but it will also play a pivotal role in meeting India's net zero target. It will also help in creating employment opportunities for the people of Jammu & Kashmir. With establishment of our Kathua facility and our existing 2.8GW module manufacturing facility in Jaipur, Rajasthan, Grew will achieve a total of 6GW manufacturing capacity for modules and 2.8GW for solar components by FY25."

## Release of Kejriwal will be a booster for INDIA Alliance: Tony

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 10



In a bold declaration, Taranjit Singh Tony, General Secretary of J&K Pradesh Congress Committee and DDC Suchetgarh has emphasized that the release of Arvind Kejriwal, the stalwart leader of the Aam Aadmi Party, will serve as a monumental boost for the INDIA Alliance, poised to dismantle and annihilate the ruling NDA in the ongoing Lok Sabha polls. With fervent conviction, Tony declared, "Kejriwal's return to the political forefront will resoundingly expose the misdeeds of the Modi Government. His unwavering stance against the dictatorial tendencies of the present regime, which threatens the very fabric of our democracy, is paramount. Modi's relentless pursuit to alter the constitution, painstakingly crafted by the visionary Baba Saheb BR Ambedkar, cannot go unchallenged."

Tony further iterated that Kejriwal's reemergence will infuse a fresh surge of energy into the INDIA Alliance, galvanizing the collective effort against the authoritarian

rule of the Modi Government. "Kejriwal's leadership symbolizes the spirit of grassroots democracy and relentless advocacy for the rights of the common citizen," remarked Tony.

Highlighting the significance of Kejriwal's release, Tony confidently asserted, "This pivotal moment will undoubtedly pave the path for the INDIA Alliance's triumph on June 4th, marking a decisive turning point in the political landscape of our nation."

As the Lok Sabha polls intensify, Tony urged the electorate to rally behind the INDIA Alliance, united in the pursuit of upholding the democratic principles enshrined in the constitution.

## Vicky sets up Kaith Music Factory in Bhagwati Nagar

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 10

Song album builder Vicky hailing from R.S.Pura's Village Dablehar, has set up a Kaith Music Factory in Bhagwati Nagar with an object to provide all latest musical facilities to locals here at Jammu. R.L.Kaith said, Vicky

is a composer and musician, who has completely changed, enhanced and revolutionized music. His fusion of classical music with contemporary sounds has garnered him recognition, and has also established him as an innovative man who brought fame to a rather regional and underrated musical equipments.

## Reject Exploiters, vote for progress, peace: Azad

JI NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR MAY 10

DPAP chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad has urged the people to take charge of initiating a transformation in Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasized the vital necessity of abolishing the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) in the region, citing it as a critical step towards fostering lasting peace and stability.



While addressing a public meeting in Chackipahroo he criticized the past administrations, including the National Conference (NC) and the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), for the unjust detention of individuals under the Public Safety Act (PSA) also the fake encounters, revealing his personal investigations during his tenure as Chief Minister, which uncovered cases of innocent civilians being falsely implicated as militants. He said, "If the government claims there is normalcy, they should revoke AFSPA. Also, many youths were detained under PSA during NC, PDP rule. When I became Chief Minister, a deputa-

tion of vegetable vendors and their families met me, claiming that those who were killed were innocent, falsely portrayed as militants by the police. Upon investigation, the truth emerged that they were indeed innocent, and I ensured that the responsible officers were put behind bars. If my government comes to power, I will never exploit the people and will ensure justice." Azad referred to a video where an ex-chief minister was confronted by citizens over unfulfilled commitments, indicating a growing dissatisfaction among the electorate. He emphasized the impor-

tance of track records and tangible results in governance. He challenged the notion that regional parties only deceive the public, asserting that his administration's actions speak louder than words. He cited numerous initiatives undertaken during his tenure aimed at uplifting the underprivileged and fostering development. One notable achievement Azad highlighted was the construction of the Hajj House in Srinagar within a record time of six months, showcasing the efficiency and dedication of his administration. He stressed the imperative to cease exploiting people

through hollow slogans. He stressed that citizens are craving authentic transformation, development, and tranquility. Azad lamented the regional parties' history of duping Kashmiris, pointing to their vacillation from advocating autonomy to self-rule, and now fixating on Article 370. Reflecting on his solitary stand in Parliament against the abrogation of Article 370, he contrasted it with the reticence and abstentions of select regional MPs. He emphasized the significance of electing candidates who prioritize public issues and

endorsed Amir Bhatt, a candidate from the DPAP, as someone who would echo the people's concerns in Parliament, mirroring Azad's own approach. Among other present on

the occasion were, Amir Bhatt Lok Sabha Candidate, Salman Nizami Chief Spokesperson, Bilal Khan Working President Budgam, Gh Nabi Parwana Distt President and others.

## Registration open for AIMA's Under Graduate Aptitude Test (UGAT) 2024

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 10

The All India Management Association (AIMA) is a premier apex body for management professionals in India, dedicated to enhancing management skills and capabilities through various programs, initiatives, and examinations. AIMA is pleased to announce the commencement of registration for the Under Graduate Aptitude Test (UGAT) 2024.

UGAT serves as a gateway for aspiring students seeking admission to various undergraduate programs across India including Integrated MBA (IMBA), Bachelor of Business Administration

(BBA), Bachelor of Computer Applications (BCA), Bachelor of Hotel Management (BHM) and Bachelor of Commerce (B.Com).

UGAT scores are accepted by premier universities/institutions such as University of Kashmir, Islamic University of Science & Technology, Ahmedabad University, New Delhi Institute of Management, NICMAR University, VM Salgaocar Institute of International Hospitality Education, Kalinga University, Birla Global University, KIIT, Sharda University, and many more.

To streamline the admission process for students, UGAT offers a unique opportunity wherein candidates can

appear for a single test and be considered for admission to numerous reputed institutions and universities offering the aforementioned programs nationwide. This streamlined approach not only simplifies the application process for students but also provides them with a comprehensive platform to showcase their aptitude and technical skills. A large number of students from Jammu appear for competitive exams or academic entrances each year and UGAT can help them to secure admission to their favorite courses or colleges across the country. Expressing his thoughts, Mr. Daljeet Singh, Director, AIMA said, "UGAT

continues to serve as a vital platform for students aspiring to pursue undergraduate studies in management and related fields. As we open registration for UGAT 2024, we encourage all eligible candidates, including those from Jammu, to seize this opportunity and showcase their potential. AIMA remains committed to facilitating the academic aspirations of students and promoting excellence in management education."

Candidates interested in appearing for UGAT 2024 from Jammu are encouraged to visit the official AIMA website for further details and to complete the registration process.

### Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir Office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu

e-mail: [xennorth@gmail.com](mailto:xennorth@gmail.com)

#### NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No. 31 of 2024-25

For and on behalf of Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jammu, Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu, invites tenders by e-tendering mode from the reputed/registered firms/Sole Prop. for the below mentioned work:-

S. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost (in ₹)	Cost of document/ tender fee (in ₹)	Earnest money (in ₹)	Validity of Rates	Bid validity
1.	Repair to Auto transformer starter Panel (ATS Panel) of V.T Pump unit no. III of intake-III Sittlee.	2,03,800/-	200/-	4100/- in the shape of CDR / FDR	180 days	180 days

Position of AAA: Accorded

Position of TS: Sanctioned

Date of Publishing : 09-05-2024 (06.00 pm).

1. Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from **09-05-2024 (06.00 pm)**.
2. The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from **09-05-2024 (06.00 pm)** to **24-05-2024 (02.00 pm)**.
3. The complete bidding process will be online <http://jktenders.gov.in>.
4. The Technical bids received shall be opened online on **25-05-2024 (02.00 pm)** or any other subsequent date in the office of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Mech. Division North Jammu.
5. The Financial bid of the bidders shall be opened online after scrutinizing the technical bid in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu in presence of the bidders who wish to attend. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
6. The bidder should make payment for cost of bidding document in shape of single window challan of JMC / online payment through the JMC website link <http://www.jmcjammu.org/online-payment.html> in the name of Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu.
7. The original instruments in respect of cost of document, EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR and other relevant document of L<sub>1</sub> bidder will be required to be submitted to the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu after opening of financial bids on line. No separate intimation about opening of financial bids will be sent by this office / by the tender opening authority. In case the original documents are not submitted by the L<sub>1</sub> bidder opening of financial bid, the tender will be cancelled and the bidder will not be allowed to participate in any further / future tendering process in the division for a period of one year.

JSMNDJ/499-501  
Dated: 09-05-2024

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Jal Shakti Mech. Division North  
Jammu

DIP/J-421/24  
Date: 10-5-24

# Truth prevails- Kejriwal gets interim bail wide spread impact expected in general Elections: AAP

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
 JAMMU, MAY 10

Expressing great exhumeration and victory of Justice over the judgment pronounced by Hon'ble Supreme Court in granting interim bail to Delhi Chief Minister Sh. Arvind Kejriwal, till June 1st. , Aam Aadmi Party, Jammu welcomed the judgment and forecasted that besides PUNJAB, HARYANA & other states, the election result in Delhi elections will come out as 7, AAP anticipated. The AAP leaders reminded general masses that BJP shamelessly embracing all noted fraudsters in their Party fold on one hand and advocating crusade against corruption on the other hand

and that whole country men are now watching the false & baseless propaganda of BJP and that country men are bound to pay BJP in the same coin in the ongoing Lok Sabha elections. The AAP leaders further said that this is not only a relief to the acting CM, Sh. Arvind Kejriwal but it is an victory of democracy, Constitution and the supremacy of law of the land against the Dictatorship.

The Aam Aadmi Party, Jammu has felt it expedient that in order to avoid character assassination of the leaders of opposition political parties at the time of elections, ED or CBI intervention need be stopped to ensure free, fair & fearless election, at least 6 months

before election in the biggest democracy of the world. This was stated by AAP Senior leaders S/ Sh. S. Deep Singh, Maj. Gen Retd. R.S. Jamwal, Farooq Ahmed Banday, R.S. Chauhan, Kuldeep Kumar Rao, Amit Langer, S.S. Jamwal, Agya Kour, Ram Pal Khajuria, Romesh Lal Bhagat, Adv. Arvind Bhandral, Adv. Dalvinder Kumar Bhagat, Suresh Bhagat, Ashni Matoo, S.Ranjodh Singh , G.N. Khan, Sandeep Parihar & Sham Lal Thakur, here urging upon Chief Justice of India to take SUO-MOTO action in public interest to ensure cleanliness, transparency & fearless election in Indian polity to set an example before the democratic world. Citing an example of

worst ever character assassination by BJP government of opposition leaders be it Hemant Soren acting Chief Minister of Jharkhand, Chief Minister Delhi, Sh. Arvind Kejriwal, Manish Sisodia. Dy CM, Satyinder Jain, Health Minister AAP , Sanjay Singh MP, AAP & so many other opposition leaders, the AAP leaders vehemently assailed the present government saying that Indian democracy, has earned a BAD NAME of acute black mailing of opposition leaders at the time of election to secure political gains throwing dust in the eyes of general masses there by diverting the attention of masses from real issues like price rise, unemployment, de-valua-

tion of Indian rupees as compared to US dollar, paper leakage, Diesel & petrol prices etc. The AAP leaders further said that on one hand BJP is arresting political opponents on fake corruption charges while they themselves are on an MLA & councilors purchasing spree. Hard-earned public money is being misused to quench BJP's thirst for power, the AAP leaders alleged. They further said that the BJP & Prime Minister Modi cannot talk about fighting corruption now; the tainted leaders under the scanner of ED & CBI for corruption have been put into "washing machine" & BJP's detergent washing powder cleans all spots in seconds.

# AIJMS takes serious note of non-issuance of OBC Certificates to Jat community members by authorities

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
 KATHUA, MAY 10

The All India Jat Maha Sabha convened a crucial meeting today to address the pressing issue of the non-issuance of OBC (Other Backward Class) certificates to members of Jat community by the authorities.

The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Ch. Manmohan Singh, President of AIJMS, Jammu & Kashmir, and former Mayor of Jammu in which several key issues related to the Jat community were discussed threadbare. The meeting was attended by Avtar Choudhary District President Kathua, Ch Sat Pal Tehsil President, Ch. Krishan Lal, Ch. Lekh Raj, Ch. Dalip Singh, Ch. Jagar Singh, Ch. Ramesh Kumar, Ch. Rakesh Kumar, S. Swarn Singh, Ch. Parkash Singh, Ch. Charan Dass and S.P Choudhary (AGM Retd.)

The Sabha members raised serious concern over the non-issuance of OBC certificates to Jat community members, despite the government's affirmative stance on extending



OBC benefits. They highlighted the unfortunate bureaucratic hindrances faced at the level of the concerned authorities, notably the Tehsildar.

In his address, Ch. Manmohan Singh laid stress upon strengthening the working of the Sangathan, emphasizing proactive outreach initiatives to address the needs of the community comprehensively. He said we need to work together better so we can help our community more effectively.

Ch Manmohan Singh emphasized the vital role of youth empowerment in shaping the future trajectory of the Jat community. He called upon Sabha members to remain vigilant and

proactive in guiding and educating the youth about the detrimental effects of substance abuse, particularly drugs. He stressed the need for holistic approaches that encompass education, awareness campaigns, and community support systems to address the root causes of drug abuse and promote healthier lifestyles among youth.

Addressing the pressing issue of the non-issuance of OBC certificates, Ch. Manmohan Singh reassured attendees of his unwavering resolve to expedite resolution. He assured to take this matter with the Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, to resolve this crucial issue at the earliest.

## DoT, MHA and State Police join hands to combat cyber fraudsters

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
 NEW DELHI, MAY 10

Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and State Police have joined hands for curbing the misuse of telecom resources in cyber-crime and financial frauds. This collaborative effort aims to dismantle networks of fraudsters and protect citizens from digital threats.

Analysis carried out by MHA and State Police have revealed that 28,200 mobile handsets were misused in cybercrimes. The DoT further analyzed and found that a staggering 20 lakh numbers were used with these mobile handsets. Subsequently, DoT issued directions to telecom service providers for pan India blocking of 28,200 mobile handsets and to carryout immediate reverification of 20 lakh mobile connections linked to these mobile handsets and disconnect failing re-verification.

The unified approach demonstrates a shared commitment towards public safety and to safeguard the integrity of telecommunications infrastructure and ensure a secure digital environment.

## 02 Bovine smuggling bids foiled, 25 bovines rescued, 02 vehicles seized

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
 JAMMU, 10.05.2024

Jammu police tightening noose against Bovine smugglers under operation Kamadhenu Police team of Police station Nagrota foiled one bovine smuggling bid, rescued 12 bovines and seized one vehicle (Truck) bearing registration No.Jk08A-0047 from Naka Ban Toll Plaza ,driver namely Ishtaiq Ahmed Chowan S/o Abdul Rashid Chowan R/o Jakhani District Udhampur was arrested on spot.

Moreover,one more bovine smuggling bid foiled by Police Post Manwal,rescued 13 bovines and seized a Vehicle Truck bearing registration No. Jk08E/5524 from Nadal Naka. Driver namely Amjad Ali S/o Mamtaz Ali R/o Rajbagh Kathua was also arrested.

## Dogra Grameen Brahman Sabha holds Yagnopavit Ceremony during Brahman Sammelan

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
 AKHNOOR, MAY 10

On Friday, on the occasion of Akshaya Tritiya, the birth anniversary of Lord Parashuram, the sixth incarnation of Lord Vishnu, was celebrated with great pomp throughout India. Many processions and many big Brahmin conferences were organized in different districts of Jammu and Kashmir. During the religious program organized under the leadership of Pradhan Ashok Shastri at Lord Parshuram Temple of Akhnoor, the program of Havan Yagya and prayers was started from the morning itself. There was a steady stream of devotees paying obeisance at the temple throughout the day. Bhandara Prasad was distributed among the devotees.

Similar religious programs were also organized in many other areas of Jammu. To celebrate the birth anniversary of Lord Parshuram, Dogra Grameen Brahmin Sabha organized a huge Brahman Sammelan at 20 Miles



on Friday. The program started with Havan, Yagya and Purnahuti under the chairmanship of President Krishna Lal Sharma. During the program, a Yagnopavit Ceremony was also performed for hundred students. During the program, a grand procession was also taken out by the youth which passed through Thati, Dumi, Sua No. 1, Agore, Jandial and concluded at Ranjan 20 Miles Resort.

During the grand Brahman Sammelan, Padmashree Pt. Vishwamurthy Shastri ji was present as the chief guest while Pt. Pandit Suresh Shastri, Pt. Vijay Parashar

Shastri, Pt. Devraj Shastri was the Guest of Honors. Former minister Sham Lal Sharma, former MLA Devendra Singh Rana, advocate Abhinav Sharma, Vishwa Hindu Parishad general secretary Shakti Dutt Sharma, Somnath Khajuria, Vijay Sharma, Brahmin Sabha Akhnoor president Ashok Shastri attended the conference as special guests.

The chief guest Padmashree Pt. Vishwamurthy Shastri ji present during the conference told the people about the history and importance of Lord Parashuram. He also appealed to the gathering to follow the path of

Sanatan Dharma and wage war against various social evils in the society. Saying that Brahmin is one who has knowledge of both scriptures and scriptures, he called upon people to acquire more and more knowledge and spread it in the society so as to create a well-informed society and nation. Pandit Suresh Shastri sang devotional songs and bhajans to enthrall the gathering with the religious and spiritual atmosphere. Vijay Parashar Maharaj threw light on the responsibilities of a Brahmin in his sermon.

During this, Suresh Sharma, Neelkanth Sharma, Bhagwan Das Sharma, Ashok Sharma, Kewal Krishna Sharma, Madan Lal, Kishore Sharma, Romesh Sharma, Parshotam Sharma, Naresh Sudan, Ankush Sharma, Vinod, Vijay Sharma, Sandeep Sharma, Sita Ram Sharma, Tara Mani Sharma, Suresh Khajuria, Rahul Sudan, Himanshu Sudan etc. were present.

## LEAD, SKUAST-J organised a Summit on Promoting Entrepreneurship



**JNEWS SERVICE**  
 JAMMU, MAY 10

The second edition of SUYOG - LJK Opportunity Summit, held at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-J), focused on illuminating opportunities for youth in the Agriculture and Food Processing Sector. Organized by LJK Economic Growth and Development Dialogue - LEAD in partnership with SKUAST-Jammu and NAHEP-IDP, the event witnessed participation of various stakeholders, including young and progressive farmers, entrepreneurs, industrialists, academicians and agriculture sector experts from all districts of Jammu region.

Prof. B. N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu was Chief Guest on the occasion. Prof. B. N. Tripathi in his keynote address enlightened the farmers, youth, entre-

preneurs and students with the remarkable transformation journey of agriculture in India highlighting the progress of nation from a country with insufficient food to a self-sufficient and even exporting agricultural produce. The credit for this achievement, he emphasized, goes to the dedicated efforts of agricultural scientists who have developed numerous crop varieties, technologies and thus significantly increased the production. Prof. Tripathi outlined the importance of boosting the agri start-up ecosystem by motivating young students to look beyond traditional job opportunities and broaden their vision to become job providers by running their own enterprises. Prof. Tripathi also underscored the pivotal role of the Agribusiness Incubator SKUAST-Jammu in nurturing youth startups under the RKVY-RAFTAR project. He expressed optimism regarding the collaborative efforts between SKUAST-Jammu and LEAD, envisioning positive outcomes for the region's agricultural sector.

## NS Bhau pays obeisance during Parshuram Jayanti, lays emphasis on 'Unity in Diversity'



**JNEWS SERVICE**  
 KHIOUR, MAY 10

On the auspicious occasion of Parshuram Jayanti, All India Bhau Rajput President, Narinder Singh Bhau, offered his respects during a grand tableau organized by the Brahman Sabha. Reflecting on the event, Narinder Singh Bhau highlighted the inclusive nature of the gathering, noting that people from all walks of life came together to honor God Parshuram Maharaaj. The tableau, meticulously arranged by the Brahman Sabha, served as a focal point for individuals from diverse communities to converge and pay homage

to the revered deity. Narinder Singh Bhau's words underscored the significance of unity in diversity, emphasizing the communal harmony exhibited during such sacred observances.

As the President of All India Bhau Rajput, Narinder Singh Bhau's presence at the Parshuram Jayanti tableau epitomized his commitment to fostering goodwill and inclusivity among various societal groups. The event served as a testament to the collective reverence and shared devotion transcending cultural boundaries, encapsulating the spirit of oneness and mutual respect.

## CBC hosts awareness program under SVEEP on Voting & democracy participation at Lal Chowk

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
 SRINAGAR, MAY 10

The Central Bureau of Communication, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Field Office Srinagar, organised an awareness programme at Ghanta Ghar, Lalchowk Srinagar on Friday, to promote voter awareness and highlight the significance of active participation in the electoral process.

The event, organized under the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation Program (SVEEP), aimed to engage citizens and underscore the importance of casting their votes during the ongoing Lok Sabha elections.

The program witnessed enthusiastic participation from the local community, reflecting a shared commitment to upholding democratic values and exercising voting rights.

Attendees were provided with informative literature elucidating



the pivotal role of public engagement in fortifying democratic principles.

Field Publicity Officer, CBC Srinagar said the programme was part of a broader series of programs being orchestrated

by the Central Bureau of Communication, Field Office Srinagar, spanning across the Kashmir region to promote informed citizenship and bolster democratic participation.

## Police seizes 19 vehicles involved in illegal mining, arrests 18 drivers in Baramulla

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
 BARAMULLA, MAY 10

Cracking a whip on illegal mining of minerals, police have seized 19 vehicles and arrested 18 drivers in Baramulla.

Under the supervision of DySP Hqrs Baramulla/SDPO Kreeri & Pattan, police parties seized 19 vehicles (11 Tippers, 8 Tractors) & arrested 18 drivers at Delina, Chakloo, Sheehpora, Khawajabagh, Sheeri, Kreeri & Palhallan areas of Baramulla district. The arrested drivers have been identified as Shabir Ahmad Bhat resident of Shilwat Sumbal, Mansoor Ahmad Wani resident of Kanlibagh, Irshad Ahmad Malla resident of Khanpora, Afeer Ahmad Bhat resident of Mujgund, Farooq Ahmad Mir, both residents of Shilwat Sumbal, Ab Hameed



Siraj resident of Bomai Sopore, Sameer Ahmad Dar resident of Kanisuth, Adil Ramzan Dar resident of Naranthal, Mohd Yousuf Sheikh & Javed Ahmad Dar, both residents of Khanpora, Afeer Ahmad Bhat resident of Mujgund, Farooq Ahmad Dar resident of Takanwari Srinagar, Nasir Ahmad

Sheikh resident of Pehliharan, Aijaz Ahmad Malla & Gh Rasool Marazi, both residents of Sheeri, Faisal Ahmad Khan resident of Bangdara & Adil Khaliq Alaie resident of Waripora Payeen.

Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered in Police Station Baramulla, Sheeri, Pattan & Kreeri and further investigation have been taken up. People are requested not to indulge in any kind of illegal mining activities from any Nallah/river as it is the violation of Government rules. Persons found indulging in illegal mining activities shall be dealt as per law.

## DHS Jammu visits SDH Baderwah, inspects healthcare facilities

J1NEWS SERVICE  
DODA, MAY 10

On the second day of his tour to District Doda, Director Health Services Jammu, Dr. Rakesh Magotra, today visited Government Sub District Hospital (SDH), Baderwah to evaluate the healthcare services and facilities available for the community. The visit was part of the ongoing efforts by the Health Department to monitor and improve healthcare standards across the region.

During the visit, the DHS Jammu inspects different departments within Baderwah Hospital, including the Emergency ward, inpatient units, outpatient clinics, Labor Room, and diagnostic facilities.

The purpose of the visit was to gain first-

hand knowledge about the hospital's infrastructure, patient care procedures and overall healthcare delivery system. Dr. Rakesh Magotra engaged in discussions with the hospital administration, medical staff, and front-line healthcare workers. He exchanged valuable insights and ideas on ways to enhance the quality and accessibility of healthcare services in Baderwah Hospital. The Director Health Services Jammu acknowledged the dedication and hard work of the healthcare professionals, expressing gratitude for their tireless efforts in serving the community. Dr. Magotra emphasized the importance of continuous improvement in healthcare delivery, focusing on patient-centered care and efficient healthcare management.

He also highlighted the significance of maintaining high standards of cleanliness, infection control, and adherence to medical protocols for the safety and well-being of patients. He inquired about the availability of medicines, diagnostic facilities, and other services at the hospital and interacted with patients and their attendants to assess their satisfaction with the care provided at SDH Baderwah. Later, DHS Jammu held a brief meeting with the staff members of SDH Baderwah and listened to their grievances. Dr. Magotra was accompanied by Chief Medical Officer Doda Dr. Om Kumar and DIO Doda Dr. Versha Sharma, while BMO Baderwah Dr. Mohd Ashraf and other medical and paramedical staff from SDH Baderwah.

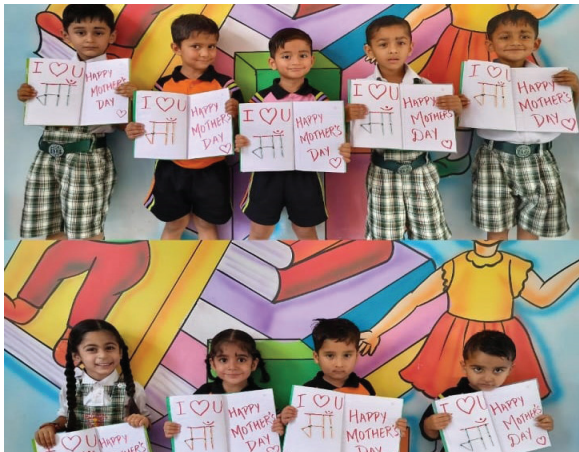
## DPS Kathua Celebrates Mother's Day with Special Assembly and Activities

J1NEWS SERVICE  
KATHUA, MAY 11

DPS Kathua marked Mother's Day with heartfelt celebrations, featuring a special assembly and a range of engaging activities to honor mothers and motherhood.

The day commenced with a vibrant assembly, where students showcased their talents and appreciation for mothers through a captivating play dedicated to Mother's Day. Following the play, various class activities were organized, including paper flower making and crown crafting, allowing students to express their love and gratitude for their mothers in creative ways.

In addition, the junior wing of the school participated in a poetry activity, composing heartfelt poems dedicated to their mothers.



Principal Mr. Vivek Arora expressed his admiration for the students' efforts and commended the teachers for their guidance and support in organizing the event. He extended warm wishes to all mothers, conveying a message of appreciation for their unconditional love and sacrifices.

"It's heartening to see our students actively

participating in celebrating the essence of motherhood," said Principal Arora. "We are grateful for the love and support of all mothers and wish them a happy Mother's Day."

The Mother's Day celebration at DPS Kathua served as a beautiful tribute to the irreplaceable role mothers play in shaping the lives of their children.

## DHS Jammu visits SDH Baderwah, inspects facilities

J1NEWS SERVICE  
DODA, MAY 09

On day second of his tour to District Doda, the Director Health Services Jammu Dr. Rakesh Magotra, visited Govt. Sub District Hospital, Baderwah today on 10-05-2024 to evaluate the healthcare services and facilities provided to the community.

This visit was a part of the ongoing efforts by the Health Department to monitor and improve healthcare standards across the region.

The DHS Jammu toured various departments of Baderwah Hospital, including the Emergency ward, inpatient units, Labour Room and diagnostic facilities. The purpose of the visit was to gain first-hand knowledge about the hospital's infrastructure, patient care procedures and the overall healthcare delivery system.

During the visit, DHS Jammu engaged in discussions with the hospital administration, medical staff and front-line healthcare workers. They exchanged valuable insights and ideas on ways to enhance the quality and accessibility of healthcare



services in Baderwah Hospital.

The Director Health Services Jammu acknowledged the dedication and hard work of the healthcare professionals and expressed gratitude for their tireless efforts in serving the community.

In their remarks, DHS emphasized the importance of continuous improvement in healthcare delivery, emphasizing the need for patient-centered care and efficient healthcare management. They also highlighted the significance of maintaining high standards of cleanliness, infection control, and adherence to medical protocols for the safety and well-being of patients.

The DHS enquired

about the availability of medicines, diagnostic and other facilities in the hospital and services being provided to patients there and also interacted with the patients and attendants to inquire about their satisfaction with the services of this health institution.

Later on, the DHS Jammu held a brief meeting with the staff members of SDH Baderwah and listen to their grievances.

The DHS was accompanied by Chief Medical Officer Doda Dr Om Kumar, DIO Doda Dr Versha Sharma whereas BMO Baderwah Dr Mohd Ashraf, medical and paramedical staff of the SDH Baderwah hospital was present on the occasion.

## Ramban Admin holds workshop on Decision Support System, Digital Risk Database application

J1NEWS SERVICE  
RAMBAN, MAY 10

District Administration Ramban, in collaboration with Jhelum and Tawi Flood Recovery Project (JTFRP) and J&K Economic Reconstruction Agency (JKERA), under the guidance of District Magistrate, Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, organized a comprehensive training program on the Operationalization of Decision Support System (DSS) and Digital Risk Database (DRDB) application today here in Conference Hall of the District Administrative Complex.

Presiding the training session, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Varunjeet Singh Charak highlighted the significance of the twin applications and advised the par-

ticipants to sensitize their frontline officers and officials about the operation of applications in disaster and emergency like situation to report and tackle the incident.

The training program was attended by senior officers including Assistant Commissioner Revenue, S. Harpal Singh the Sub-Divisional Magistrates of Banihal, Ramsoo, and Gool, Assistant Commissioner Development, Tehsildars of Ramban, Banihal, Ramsoo, Pogal-Paristan (Ukhral), Batote, Gool, Khari, and Rajgarh, as well as Executive Engineers and Engineers from PWD (R&B) Division Ramban, Banihal, JPDC Division Batote, Jal Shakti, PMGSY Division Ramban and various other concerned officers.

Besides sensitizing par-

ticipants through Power-Point presentations, the resource persons including Dr. Murlikrishana, Mohammad Junaid, Consultant from RMSI and AEE, Shabeer Hussain, AE Sajad Rafiq from JTFRP, JKERA also provided hand-holding to participants in installing and operationalizing the Apps on their smartphones.

The programme aimed to enhance understanding and proficiency in utilizing the Decision Support System (DSS) and Digital Risk Database (DRDB), crucial applications for efficient decision-making and risk management.

These collaborative efforts of all the stakeholders have utmost significance towards bolstering disaster preparedness and ensuring the welfare of the community.

## DC Rajouri reviews status of JJM schemes

J1NEWS SERVICE  
RAJOURI, MAY 10

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Om Prakash Bhagat today chaired a meeting to review the progress of the Jal Jeevan Mission schemes, aiming to ensure clean drinking water access to rural communities.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasised the crucial aspects of high-quality work, timely project completion and effective supervision to achieve the goals of the Jal Jeevan Mission.

To accelerate the imple-

mentation of the scheme, the Deputy Commissioner directed officers to adopt a result-driven approach, adhering to strict timelines. Through focused efforts and dedicated work, the mission is rapidly transforming into a reality, promising a healthier and happy life for the residents of the region.

For the schemes where the work has not been started yet, the Deputy Commissioner directed officers to promptly address issues hindering the progress of work on such schemes.

The DC emphasised

the need for a holistic approach towards water management, emphasizing that it is not just about providing access to clean drinking water but also about preserving and sustainably utilizing these vital resources.

The Officers who attended the meeting were CPO, Maqsood Ahmed; SE Hydraulics, Bharam Jyoti Sharma; EXEN Jal Shakti Rajouri, Ashwini Sharma; EXEN Jal Shakti Nowshera, Bipin Kumar; EXEN PDD Rajouri, Mohd Rashid; EXEN Jal Shakti Mechanical, Manoj Gupta and AEEs of Jal Shakti Department.

## Rana participates in Parshuram Jayanti celebrations; greets people



J1NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 10

Senior BJP leader Mr Devender Singh Rana today participated in the Parshuram Jayanti celebrations at Dogra Brahmin Prathinidhi Sabha, Dogra Grameen Brahmin Sabha and Nagrota greeted the devout on the birth anniversary of legendary sage warrior Bhagwan Parshuram.

In the serene and spiritually filled atmosphere,

the senior BJP leader paid homage to the sixth incarnation of Bhagwan Vishnu, known for unparalleled devotion, strength, dedication and righteousness.

"Pray such festivals to be an opportunity to rededicate ourselves to strengthen the bonds of inclusiveness, share our joys with others and serve the humanity", Mr Devender Rana said, adding that the unity in diversity has been the biggest strength of this great nation, which

has always withstood test of times. "The observance of Parshuram Jayanti provides an opportunity to us all to immerse ourselves in the divine aura of the revered sage warrior", Mr Rana said, adding, "Let us come together to honour His legacy and draw inspiration from His noble deeds as we strive towards a harmonious and virtuous society".

Mr Devender Rana prayed for peace and tranquility across the country.

## SSP Jammu conducted inspection of far flung Border Police Post Jogwan in Subdivision Akhnoor

J1NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 10

Today on 10.05.2024 SSP Jammu Dr. Vinod Kumar IPS conducted inspection of Border Police Post Jogwan. During the visit he was accompanied by SP Rural Jammu, Sh. Brijesh Sharma-JKPS and SDPO Akhnoor, Sh. Mohan Lal Sharma-JKPS, SHO Khour, Inspector Neeraj Choudhary, Incharge PP Pallanwala and Incharge BPP Jogwan.



During his visit he conducted casual inspection of the Border Police Post Jogwan and checked various registers/records which are currently being maintained in all the police post of Jammu District, as part of proactive policing.

Thereafter he was apprised regarding the

functioning of the post and the emerging challenges in border areas. He also held the security review meeting of the area with concerned officers and on spot directions were given to have a joint naka with army in vulnerable areas. Apart from this brief VDG members to remain extra alert. Some welfare oriented issues of jawans were also resolved on spot & those pending will be resolved on priority.

## DLSA Kupwara conducts Awareness programme under SVEEP at HSS Nagri Malpora

J1NEWS SERVICE  
KUPWARA, MAY 10

In anticipation to the ongoing Lok Sabha Elections-2024 and as per the directions of Member Secretary, JK Legal Services Authority, an Awareness programme under Systematic Voters Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) initiative was today organized by the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) in collaboration with Education Department, Kupwara at Govt. Hr. Sec. School Nagri Malpora, Kupwara.

The programme was carried under the supervision of Shazia Tabsum Chairperson, DLSA (Pr. District & Session Judge) Kupwara, and under the guidance of Manzoor Ahmad Khan, Secretary DLSA/Sub-Judge, Kupwara.

The objective of the

programme was to spread voter awareness among the participants and to encourage young voters to exercise their franchise.

Addressing the gathering, Resource Person, Irfan Ahmad Shah empanelled PLV of DLSA Kupwara, highlighted the significance of raising awareness about voter education and underlining the pivotal role of every citizen, particularly the youth, in shaping the nation's democratic trajectory.

Engaging students from Nagri Malpora Senior Secondary School exemplified the cultivation of active citizenship and community involvement.

The programme was attended by Staff Members of the said institution, Students, Para legal Volunteers, DLSA Kupwara, and other participants.

## Lok Sabha Elections 2024:

### RO Jammu PC Sachin Kumar reviews counting plan

J1NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 10

District Election Officer Sachin Kumar Vaishya, also the Returning Officer for 5-Jammu Parliamentary Constituency, convened a meeting today to review the plan for counting on June 4.

SSP Dr Vinod Kumar, Assistant Returning Officers, various election Nodal Officers and Director IT (DIO NIC) Jammu, Sanjeev Kapoor were present in the meeting.

The RO led a comprehensive review of arrangements concerning operations, logistics, equipment handling, signage installation and security.

Director IT Sanjeev Kapoor was assigned the responsibility of training the counting staff, including AROs and Micro Observers, for the Electronically Transferred

Postal Ballot Management System (ETPBMS). Training is set to commence from May 13.

Officers were also instructed to oversee barricading and parking management, with special emphasis on security access through proper security passes. Additionally, arrangements for staff welfare, such as food, drinking water and other basic amenities, were meticulously reviewed by the RO.

The District Election Officer directed all concerned officers to ensure timely completion of the arrangements for the smooth conduct of the counting process.

Counting of votes for the Lok Sabha elections is scheduled on June 4, starting from 8 am at Government Polytechnic College Bikram Chowk and MAM College Jammu.

## Darakhshan visits Mendhar to take stock of the facilities for pilgrims at Sakhi Peer Chhote Shah Shrine



J1NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 10

Chairperson of J&K Waqf Board Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi today visited Mendhar and took stock of the facilities for the pilgrims at Sufi Shrine of Sakhi Peer Chhote Shah in Sakhi Maidan in the border area in Poonch district. Dr Andrabi was accompanied by Waqf Board CEO Dr Amir Hussain and the Administrator of the Board Mohammed Rafiq Chisti. Andrabi took a meeting of the Waqf staff at the shrine and issued on the spot orders for upgrading the facilities and ser-

vices for the visitors. She also held a meeting with the local religious scholars and preachers.

Speaking to media after the visit Dr Darakhshan said that this shrine is situated in border area of Mendhar and people have great reverence and respect for the shrine and we are committed to upgrade the infrastructure here. "I have issued instructions to the staff to streamline the management system so that we are able to provide better facilities to the devotees visiting the shrine in large numbers daily", said Waqf Board Chairperson.