

DENGUE WARNING SIGNS

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

Watch out for dengue warning signs!

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

- Severe and continuous headache
- Stomach pain
- Present vomiting
- A sharp rise in temperature
- Disorientation
- Severe pain in joints, muscles, or bone
- Redness

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

JINDRAH IMAGES

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Amit Shah arrives in Jammu on 3-Day tour of Jammu and Kashmir

AGENCIES
JAMMU, APR 6

Union Home Minister Amit Shah reached here Sunday evening to commence his three-day tour of Jammu and Kashmir, his first after the formation of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah-led National Conference government in the Union Territory in October last year.

Shah was received at the technical airport by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha and some senior BJP leaders, officials said, adding the home minister will visit a forward post along the India-Pakistan border and review the security situation and develop-



ment initiatives during his tour.

He is scheduled to visit the BJP headquarters at Trikuta Nagar Sunday

night to attend a meeting of party MLAs and other office bearers.

The visit of Shah to the BJP headquarters coin-

cided with the party's foundation day which was celebrated by BJP activists and leaders at the headquarters with

great fervour earlier during the day.

Police and security forces have been put on high alert in view of Shah's visit, the officials said.

On Monday, Shah will visit the BSF Border Outpost Vinay in Kathua and assess the ground situation there.

Later in the day, he will meet the family members of the martyrs of the Jammu and Kashmir Police at the Raj Bhavan in Jammu and also present appointment letters to some of them selected on compassionate grounds.

On April 8, Shah
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Ayodhya's Ram Janmabhoomi temple witnesses 'Surya Tilak'

AGENCIES
AYODHYA, APR 6

On the occasion of Ram Navami on Sunday, the Ram Janmabhoomi Temple in Ayodhya witnessed the 'Surya Tilak' illuminating the forehead of Ram Lalla.

The 'Surya Tilak' occurred exactly at noon when a beam of sunlight precisely directed on the forehead idol of Ram Lalla and formed a celestial tilak. Visuals showed priests offering prayers to Ram Lalla during the Surya Tilak.

Earlier in the day, large crowds gathered at the temples across Uttar Pradesh in Ayodhya and Sambhal. Authorities heightened security



across different zones, with drone surveillance and zonal arrangements to manage the large influx of pilgrims.

Ayodhya Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Rajkaran Nayyar said, "A

large number of devotees are arriving on the occasion of Ram Navami. We have divided the areas into different zones. Drones are being used for crowd management and security purposes.

Dr Jitendra lauds CSIR institutes' pivotal role in drug discovery, genetic diagnostics

AGENCIES
HYDERABAD, APR 6

Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology, has lauded Hyderabad based CSIR (Council of Scientific & Industrial Research) institutes' pivotal role in drug discovery, genetic diagnostics and developing cost-effective Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API).

The meeting was convened by the Minister to review the recent work outcomes of Hyderabad



based CSIR labs, particularly after the personal impetus and patronage provided by Prime Minister Narendra Modi over

the last one decade. Directors of three premier CSIR laboratories based in

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J&K emerging from past challenges: CM Omar

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APRIL 6

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today said that Jammu and Kashmir has faced numerous challenges over the years but is now gradually emerging from these challenges.

He emphasized that efforts are underway to ensure the region becomes an equal stakeholder in the country's overall development.

The Chief Minister was speaking at Lok Samvardhan Parv, being held at the University of Kashmir from April 5 to 13 under the theme 'Bhagidari se Bhagyodaya'.

"Wherever support is



possible and wherever proposals from our side are pending approval, I humbly request that they be considered and approved so that people of

Jammu and Kashmir can benefit," the Chief Minister said.

He was the Chief Guest at the event, which was inaugurated by Union

Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Minority Affairs, Kiren Rijiju.

Minister of State for Minority Affairs, George Kurien, also attended the

event. Vice Chancellor of Kashmir University, Professor Nilofer Khan, along with other senior dignitaries, was also present on the occasion.

Highlighting the importance of the programme, Omar Abdullah said the event marks a new beginning in the relationship between the Ministry of Minority Affairs and Jammu & Kashmir.

"This initiative offers a window into the rich cultural diversity, handicrafts and cuisines of the country, while also providing us the opportunity to showcase our own heritage—be it our crafts,

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Cyber Police Kashmir busts major mule account network fueling cyber frauds, 21 arrested

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APR 6

The Cyber Police Station, Kashmir Zone, Srinagar, has uncovered a vast and sophisticated network behind the creation and operation of mule bank accounts – a key enabler in large-scale cyber frauds and financial crimes.

Police said that it has identified 7,200 mule

bank accounts operating from the Kashmir Valley alone, created since January 2025. As many as 21 individuals, 19 of whom belong to Srinagar district, have been arrested during the investigation of four FIRs registered by the Cyber Police.

A mule bank account is an account used to receive and transfer illicit funds on behalf of others, often in



return for a commission. These accounts—belonging to individuals, shell

companies, and enterprises—are primarily scouted through social media platforms such as Telegram and Facebook, and are then remotely controlled by fraudsters operating from outside Jammu & Kashmir and even from overseas.

Once these accounts are set up, they are integrated into illegal payment gateways and used by crimi-

nal syndicates to collect deposits from victims on fake investment websites, offshore betting and gambling platforms, and fraudulent stock trading portals. Funds received in these mule accounts are immediately layered and diverted to other accounts or converted into cryptocurrency to obscure the money trail.

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Wanted Gangster arrested in Udhampur

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 6

A gangster, wanted by police in Jammu and Kashmir and neighbouring Punjab, was arrested in Udhampur district here on Sunday, officials said.

Amir Khan, a resident of Khoon village, was arrested in a well-coordinated operation, based on reliable intelligence regarding his movement from the Majalta area, a police spokesperson said.

He said the accused,



wanted in numerous criminal cases including rape, drug trafficking, attempt to murder and illegal possession of weapons, attempted to evade

but was overpowered and taken into custody. Khan was wanted in at least half a dozen FIRs registered across

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

President gives nod to changes in Waqf Law; Pre-Independence Mussalman Wakf Act repealed

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, APR 5

President Droupadi Murmu on Saturday gave her assent to the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025, which was passed by Parliament earlier this week after heated debates in both Houses.

Murmu also gave her assent to the Mussalman Wakf (Repeal) Bill, 2025.

"The following Act of Parliament received the assent of the president on April 5, 2025, and is hereby published for general information: The Waqf (Amendment) Act,

2025," the government said in a notification.

Parliament early on Friday approved the Bill after the Rajya Sabha gave its nod to the contentious legislation following an over 13-hour debate.

The discussion witnessed staunch objections from opposition parties, which termed the Bill "anti-Muslim" as well as "unconstitutional", while the government responded that the "historic reform" would benefit the minority community.

The Bill was passed in the Rajya Sabha with 128 members voting in favour

and 95 opposing it. It was passed in the Lok Sabha early on Thursday, with 288 members supporting it and 232 against it.

Parliament also approved the Mussalman Wakf (Repeal) Bill, with the Rajya Sabha giving its nod. The Lok Sabha had already given its assent to the Bill.

After the president gave her assent, the Mussalman Wakf Act, 1923, stands repealed.

Congress MP Mohammad Jawed and All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMM) president Asaduddin Owaisi



on Friday challenged the validity of the Waqf (Amendment) Bill in the Supreme Court, saying it violated constitutional

provisions.

Jawed's plea alleged the Bill imposed "arbitrary restrictions" on Waqf properties and their man-

agement, undermining the religious autonomy of the Muslim community.

The petition, filed through advocate Anas Tanwir, said it discriminated against the Muslim community by "imposing restrictions that are not present in the governance of other religious endowments".

Jawed, the Lok Sabha MP from Kishanganj in Bihar, was a member of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on the Bill and alleged in his plea that it "introduces restrictions on the creation of Waqfs based on the duration of

one's religious practice". In his separate plea, Owaisi said the Bill took away from Waqfs various protections accorded to Waqfs and Hindu, Jain and Sikh religious and charitable endowments alike.

Owaisi's plea, filed by advocate Lzafeer Ahmad, said, "This diminishing of the protection given to Waqfs while retaining them for religious and charitable endowments of other religions constitutes hostile discrimination against Muslims and is violative of articles 14 and 15 of the Constitution, which prohibit discrimi-

nation on the grounds of religion."

AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan has also moved the Supreme Court, challenging the Bill's constitutional validity.

In his plea, Khan sought that the Bill be declared "unconstitutional and being violative of articles 14, 15, 21, 25, 26, 29, 30 and 300-A of the Constitution" and direction for striking it down.

The Association for the Protection of Civil Rights, an NGO, has also challenged in the apex court the Bill's constitutional validity.

SMVDU's School of Architecture & Landscape Design Welcomes New Batch with Inspiring Ceremony

J1 NEWS SERVICE
KATRA, APR 6

The School of Architecture & Landscape Design at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) recently hosted a vibrant Faculty-Student Interaction Ceremony to welcome the the batch of first-year students. The ceremony, coordinated by Ar. Vinod Kumar, provided a dynamic platform for new students to introduce themselves and showcase their talents through various activities and performances in the realm of performing arts. Second-year students, led by Partha, Mamita, Murchana, and Ayushman, played a crucial role in organizing the event, ensuring every detail was meticulously planned. Faculty members and senior students of the B.Arch. program participated in the event to warmly welcome and support the newcomers. Prof. Pragati Kumar, Honorable Vice Chancellor of SMVDU, and Ar. Abhiney Gupta, Head of the School of Architecture, praised

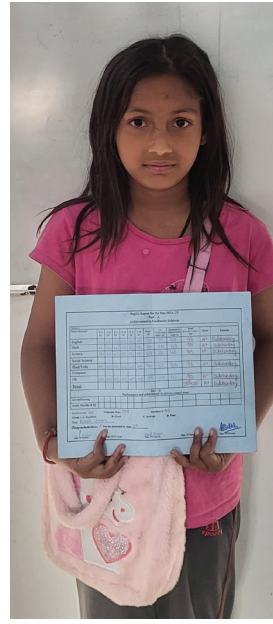


the innovative approach and engaging interaction program. This memorable occasion marks the beginning of an exciting journey for the 2024 batch, fostering a sense of belonging and enthusiasm within the architectural community at SMVDU.

Arushi Sharma Excels Showcasing the Impact of Vikalp at SMVDU

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 6

The students at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University initiated the Vikalp program in January 2009, with a small team of thoughtful and motivated students, whose main aim was to bring about an overall social change in the society. Today, the program has reached a point where more and more people have chosen to become a part of this program. The program has become successful beyond everyone's expectations and is best illustrated by the students as 'an alternative, a step taken by the SMVDU family to provide education to the underprivileged children which has



played the role of a candle in their dark lives'. Arushi Sharma, an active partici-

pant in Vikalp, at SMVDU has achieved an exceptional grade in her recent examinations, exemplifying her dedication and academic perseverance. Her remarkable success highlights the impact of Vikalp, a student-driven initiative committed to fostering academic excellence and personal growth. Through her consistent efforts and the support of Vikalp's educational programs, Arushi has demonstrated outstanding commitment to learning. Congratulating her on this achievement, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. (Dr.) Pragati Kumar, also praised Team Vikalp for their commendable efforts in educating and uplifting underprivileged students.

Kashyap Samaj demands holiday on birthday of their Saint 'Maharishi Kashyap' said Suresh Dogra(Adv.)



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU APR 5

Kashyap Samaj Commemorated Birth Anniversary of their Saint "Maharishi Kashyap" at Vivekanand Chowk Jammu East. The program was hosted & organised by Adv. Suresh Dogra, the large no. of people belong to the same community were gathered there.

Addressing a Large gathering during the Program Adv. Suresh Dogra said that Our Community always in brotherhood & strong relationship with each other, this community is very innocent & always remained socially, educationally & political deprived, Adv. Suresh Dogra further said that He is committed & Convicted that he will take the community to the peak in all walks of life. On behalf of the Community He also demanded a holiday on the birth anniversary of their Saint "Maharishi Kashyap". Dogra emphasised that there are many states of the Country who are enjoying restricted holidays on this occasion like Haryana & Uttar Pradesh & on the same pattern, we also holiday in J&K also, it was also highlighted that the name Kashyap was also originated by the name of Kashyap Rishi & due to this

big connection, our State (UT) deserves a holiday on the Jayanti of Maharishi Kashyap i.e. 5th of April every year.

Adv. Suresh Dogra also demands to the present regime that A chunk of land must be allotted to this community to form a statue & where worship could be possible for this backward Community which is more than 6 lakh in number existing in Jammu & Kashmir & these Community people are also known as Khewat, Nishad, Jheewar & Kashyap.

Brij Mehra also spoke on the occasion, he emphasised on the Bio-graphy of Saint of the Community "Maharishi Kashyap". He also emphasised on his origin, his connectivity with the Kashyap Samaj. He said that these sort of programs are for the awareness of the Community and it's upliftment should be organised no. of times in a Year.

The other Prominents who participated were Darshan Mehra, Jagvinder Tak, Rakesh Omi, Smt Asha Mehra, Sh. Sulinder Bamoetra, Jagdish Kashyap, Rajan K a s h y a p, S h. V i v e k Kashyap Ji, Er. Keshav Maski, Smt. Bindu Ji, Smt Suman Dogra, Raj kumar, R. K. Sodhi, Ajay Mehra.

Natrang Stages Powerful Adaptation of Premchand's 'Kafan'

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 6

Natrang staged a dramatic presentation of Munshi Prem Chand's famous short story, 'Kafan' here today at Natrang Studio Theatre in its Sunday Theatre Series. The play was directed by Neeraj Kant. Though written many years ago by country's most celebrated and visionary writer, the story appears timeless and still has a lot to convey to the present generation and even generations to come and it is a very precise satire on the degradation of human values.



The play revolves around a father and his son who work as laborers in a village. The son's wife is near the end of her pregnancy and is in need of medical attention, which the family certainly cannot afford. The poor lady cries in pain as 'Ghisu' and his son 'Madhav' watch helplessly. She eventually dies during childbirth, adding to the problems of the father and son. Driven to extreme poverty and despair, they have no money or means to perform the last rites for the unfortunate women. They cannot ignore the dead body lying in their hut, and set out to ask the villagers for some monetary assistance which they get after some effort but when it comes to the purchase the shroud for her, they change their mind and rather buy liquor out of that charity money, giving consolation to their sinful souls that what would a dead woman do with that piece of cloth, she does not need anything but blessings. The play very emotionally exposes the monster of alcoholism and the story seems to be so relevant and close to the contemporary times. The play shows that people ruin their life and lives of their dependents in lust of

alcohol and those who are captured in its trap may have nothing to eat and feed their family but will go out of ways to muster resources for the acquisition of liquor. Kafan which translates to a shroud in English describes the degradation of human beings to the lowest level possible.

Natrang young actors who performed in the play included Sanket Bhagat, Shivam Singh, Adaksh Bagal, Aryan Sharma and Kartik Kumar. Lights of the play were designed and executed by Neeraj Kant whereas Manvi Devi rendered the music of the play who also presented the show before the audience. The show was coordinated by Mohd. Yaseen.

Sunil Dimple prayed on Ramnavmi, for restoration of J&K state, peace, normalcy, happiness in J&K

Grand ramnavmi celebration held today by Sandeep Mahraj ji. In late Krishan Joshi ji jammu mahraj, durga temple, mandir bakshi nagar Jammu, thousands of devotees, vips, prominent citizens, women, children and people of all religions celebrated ram navami, .

Sanddep Mahraj ji maharaja performed nine days durga pooja in navratri and today on romi prayed for peace and normalcy in the universe. Sandeep mahraj ji showered blessings of durga, vaishno mata in all the devotees families today after the week long prayers and mantra ucharan.

Sunil Dimple was also present on the occasion and prayed for restoration of j&k state, peace, normalcy, happiness in j&k.

He prayed for peace, happiness, communal harmony, brotherhood in the



jammu Kashmir and india. Sandeep mahraj ji paid puran ahuti, bhandara for communal harmony after

week long navratri pooja, functions, durga puja was performed.

BJP J&K Celebrates 45th Foundation Day at Party Headquarters in Srinagar

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APRIL 6

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) J&K today celebrated its 45th Foundation Day with great enthusiasm and patriotic fervour at its Headquarters, J-53, Jawahar Nagar, Srinagar.

The occasion marked the presence of party leaders, senior functionaries, karyakartas, and supporters from various parts of the Valley.

The Chief Guest for the event was Hon'ble Minister of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, and Minority Affairs, Shri George Kurian, who addressed the gathering and praised the dedication and resilience of BJP workers in Kashmir. He emphasized the BJP's unwavering commitment to national integration, development, and inclusive growth, particularly in Jammu & Kashmir.

In his address, Shri Kurian said, "The Bharatiya Janata Party has always worked for 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, and Sabka Prayas'. Our foundation is rooted in the spirit of nationalism and service. Kashmir holds a special place in our hearts, and we will continue to work for its peace and prosperity."



Senior BJP leaders from Kashmir, Waqf Board Chairperson (MOS) Dr. Darakshan Andrabi including district office bearers and prominent workers, participated in the event.

The program included the hoisting of the party flag, singing of patriotic songs, and the reading of the BJP Foundation Day message from Hon'ble BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda. The celebration also featured a solemn tribute to the martyred BJP leaders and workers who sacrificed their lives for the cause of the nation. A moment of silence was observed in their honor, reaffirming the party's resolve to carry forward their mission with strength and sincerity.

In addition to the main event at Jawahar Nagar, BJP Foundation Day was

simultaneously celebrated in all 10 districts of Kashmir Valley, organized under the leadership of the respective BJP District Presidents. These district-level programs witnessed enthusiastic participation from local party cadres, with a common message of unity, service, and strengthening grassroots democracy.

A special celebration was also held at Church Lane Srinagar, where BJP leaders and workers came together to mark the party's founding principles and renew their pledge toward nation-building.

The day concluded with a collective oath by BJP workers to uphold the party's ideology and contribute tirelessly toward a peaceful, developed, and inclusive Jammu and Kashmir.

Aryans Law student present sketches to Law Minister Meghwal & Justice Palli



J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, 6TH APRIL

The 4th Memorial Lecture in memory of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Madan Mohan Punchhi, 28th Chief Justice of India, at Panjab University, Chandigarh. Chief Guest of this event was Minister of Law Sh. Arjun Ram Meghwal while Guest of Honour was Mr. Justice Arun Palli, Judge, Punjab & Haryana High Court. The Law students of Aryans College of Law, Rajpura, Near Chandigarh participated in this session and presented handmade sketches to dignitaries.

Over 100 Aryans BA-LLB

& LLB students participated in this event. The event was organized by Sanjay Tandon & Satyam Tandon, Compete Foundation on "Tackling the challenges created by artificial intelligence through the existing legal framework."

Meghwal traced the evolution of industries in different eras, from industry 1.0 to industry 4.0 and spoke about the emergence of cloud computing, robotics, Internet of Things (IoT) and 3D printing. Meghwal further provided examples of The French Revolution, BR Ambedkar and Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar in

guiding a constitutional integration of AI into society.

Justice Arun Palli highlighted the existing legal tools available to tackle the challenges posed by AI, as well as the potential gaps that need to be addressed. He underscored the importance of the legal system in accommodating the rapid growth of AI technologies while ensuring fairness, transparency and accountability in their use. Legal author Dr. Shruti Bedi emphasised that AI could help address India's backlog of over 4.5 crore pending cases.

Indian Army Educates Students on Key J&K Welfare Schemes



J1 NEWS SERVICE
POONCH: 05 APR 2025

In an effort to raise awareness among students about various welfare initiatives, Indian Army conducted an enlightening lecture at Chhatral Higher Secondary School attended by 40 students and 10 teachers on the key government schemes of the Jammu and Kashmir administration. The session, led by Indian Army aimed to educate students about the benefits and opportunities available to them and their families through these schemes. The lecture covered significant programs such as the Ladli Beti scheme, which supports the education and well-being of the girl child, the Mumkin scheme for youth employment, and Ayushman Bharat for healthcare benefits. Students also learned about the scheme Mission Youth, which empowers young individuals with skill development and entrepre-

neurship opportunities. Speaking at the event, Indian Army emphasized the importance of awareness in ensuring that these initiatives reach the people who need them most. "Government schemes are designed to uplift communities, and educating young minds will enable them to guide their families and contribute to society's progress," Indian Army stated. The interactive session also allowed students to ask questions and gain clarity on how they or their families could benefit from these programs. School authorities expressed their gratitude to the organizers for conducting such an informative session and encouraged similar awareness programs in the future. This initiative reflects the commitment of Indian Army to spreading knowledge and ensuring the effective implementation of government welfare programs across the region.

Advancing Heart Health-The Role of Novel Risk Markers and Screening Tests in Predicting Cardiovascular Diseases: Dr Sushil

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 6

In the ever-evolving landscape of cardiovascular medicine, early detection has become the cornerstone of effective prevention. To address this pressing need, Head Department of cardiology GMCH Jammu Dr. Sushil Sharma in collaboration with Amarujala Newspaper held a day long Cardiac Awareness cum health Check up camp at Datti Devstan Kaka Dabuj Block Vijaypur District Samba aimed at identifying novel risk markers and employing advanced screening tests to predict cardiovascular diseases. Attendees underwent a series of health assessments, including blood pressure measurement, lipid profile tests, ECG, and blood sugar analysis. However, the highlight of the camp was the integration of novel risk markers—biochemical indicators that provide deeper insights into cardiovascular risk beyond conventional measures. The role of inflammatory markers such as hs-CRP was discussed extensively, emphasizing its ability to predict future cardiac events even in individuals with normal cholesterol levels.

While interacting with the people Dr Sushil stated that Traditional risk factors such as high blood pressure, diabetes, high cholesterol, and smoking have long been associated with heart diseases, but emerging research highlights the importance of novel biomarkers such



as high-sensitivity C-reactive protein (hs-CRP), lipoprotein(a), and coronary artery calcium (CAC) scoring in refining risk assessment and prevention strategies. The significance of lipoprotein(a), a genetic risk factor that remains largely undetected in routine screenings but is increasingly recognized as a key contributor to premature heart disease. Additionally, coronary artery calcium scoring was introduced as a cutting-edge imaging tool that helps in visualizing the buildup of plaque in arteries, allowing for a more precise assessment of heart disease risk.

He elaborated that advancements in cardiovascular screening technologies have bolstered the ability to detect disease early and refine risk stratification. Imaging techniques such as coronary artery calcium (CAC) scoring and carotid intima-media thickness (CIMT) assessments provide direct visualization of atherosclerotic burden, often before symptoms arise. Additionally, emerging modalities like advanced cardiac MRI and blood-based biomarkers, includ-

ing circulating microRNAs and troponin assays, are expanding the scope of non-invasive diagnostics. By incorporating these novel tests into clinical practice, healthcare providers can move toward a more predictive and preventive model of care, ultimately reducing the incidence of heart disease and improving long-term outcomes for patients. He emphasized the necessity of lifestyle modifications, dietary interventions, and regular medical check-ups. The importance of stress management, exercise, and smoking cessation was underscored, reinforcing the idea that while genetic predisposition plays a role, lifestyle choices are equally influential in determining cardiovascular health, He Said.

As the event concluded, Dr. Sushil delivered a powerful message: "Cardiovascular diseases are silent killers that often go unnoticed until irreversible damage occurs. By integrating novel risk markers and advanced screening techniques, we empower individuals to take control of their heart health before it's too late.

Our goal is to shift the focus from treatment to prevention, ensuring a future where heart diseases are detected early and lives are saved." Through initiatives like this, Dr Sushil and his team continue to pave the way for a healthier tomorrow, where awareness, early diagnosis, and preventive care form the pillars of cardiovascular well-being.

Management Committee of the Devstan Yashpal Sharma, Sat Pal Sharma Subhash Sharma, Mahant Swaran Sanjay Ganpatya, Purshotam Sharma, Chajju Ram Sharma, Tilak Sharma, Rashpal Sharma, Subhash chander and Parvesh kumari appreciated the efforts of Dr Sushil and his team for accepting their request and conducting cardiac awareness cum health Check up camp in their premises and shows their heartfelt gratitude.

Others who were part of this camp includes Dr Venkatesh Yellupu and Dr Aditya Sharma. Paramedics and volunteers includes Raghav Rajput, Rajkumar, Makhana Sharma, Rajinder Singh, Mukesh Sharma, Rohit Nayyar, Rahul Vaid and Vikas Kumar.

Indian Army conducts Medical Patrol for Gujjar-Bakarwal Communities

JINNEWS SERVICE
POONCH RAJOURI AND REASE
06 APR 2025

In a humanitarian initiative, the Indian Army conducted an extensive medical patrol for the benefit of Gujjar and Bakarwal communities in multiple villages, including Mallukawali Lassana, Chikakhet, Lower Swani Bafliaz, Dogalgala Songri, Dheri Raylot in Poonch, Rajouri, and Reasi. The medical patrol, comprising army medical personnel, provided essential medical care and treatment to the local population, addressing various health issues and concerns. The team also dis-



tributed medicines and provided health advice to the Gujjar and Bakarwal communities, who often face challenges in access-

ing basic medical facilities due to their nomadic lifestyle. The Indian Army's medical patrol initiative demonstrates its commit-

ment to serving the nation and supporting local communities, particularly in remote and inaccessible areas. By providing medical aid and support, the Army aims to improve the health and well-being of the local population and foster a sense of trust and cooperation. The success of the medical patrol reinforces the Indian Army's dedication to promoting health awareness and supporting the well-being of local communities. The event has helped to create a positive impact on the Gujjar and Bakarwal communities, encouraging them to prioritize their health and seek medical attention when needed.

Indian Army leads cleanliness drive to promote hygiene awareness

JINNEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI-06 APR 2025

Indian Army through its initiative took part in 'Cleanliness Drive in School' with an aim to spread the awareness of cleanliness and environmental hygiene. Taking part in such cleanliness drive encourages children to take ownership of their surrounding and instills a sense of pride. This event served as an excellent platform for spreading awareness about the importance of cleanliness and hygiene in our day-



to-day life. It is not only just cleaning but involves educating students about health hazards and the harmful effect of littering on the environment also. A total of 14 Male, 07 Female, and 08 Childrens took part in the cleanliness drive. The teachers and students expressed their gratitude for the continuous support rendered by the Indian Army, also motivating and guiding students for future prospects. In continuation with the efforts to spread awareness about the benefits of cleanliness drive.

Amit shah should explain the failures to contain rising terrorism

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 6

Terming the overall security situation in Jammu region as grim, JKPC has asked the visiting Home Minister Amit Shah to explain the utter failure of his ministry to contain the spread of terrorist activities in Jammu region in recent years.

Referring to the growing concern of the people over the worsening of the security situation in various parts of Jammu region, JKPC Chief Spokesperson Advocate Ravinder Sharma has said that the Home Minister should explain the failure of his ministry to check rising terrorism in Jammu region, when UT is under direct control of his ministry.

The terrorism was almost wiped out in Jammu region in the past two decades by the previous governments but it has risen again from January 1st, 2023, when seven minority Hindus were martyred at Dhangri, Rajouri.



Since then series of attacks continue if different parts of region including on army and security forces who have rendered several supreme sacrifices.

The BJP in opposition used to target Congress government headed by Dr Manmohan Singh for the cross border infiltration and terror incidents as part of BJP politics, so it's BJP turn to answer to the nation why it failed to check terrorism for the last eleven years of its rule, although Congress doesn't play politics on the issue of terrorism and is fully behind the army and security forces to eliminate terrorism.

Reiterating the party's demand for early restoration of statehood as per repeated commitments

by the centre government especially Home Minister Amit Shah, Sharma said that the dual system of governance under UT is harmful to the interests of common people and causing political unrest here.

Home Minister should give give timeline for the restoration of statehood, at the earliest, during his current his visit, as all people want it. Home Minister should also explain his government's approach towards the 2014 package for refugees of 1947, 1965 & 1971 who were promised Rs, 30 lac per family but meagre amount of only 5.5 lac was sanctioned but rest components of package, reservation etc. are still not fulfilled. He should explain his government's failure to fulfill the commitments with them and meet their genuine demands.

Congress also questioned the failure of Modi government to ensure the safe and dignified return of Kashmiri migrants in past eleven years and failed to enhance their monthly

financial aid and other facilities and jobs, after Dr Manmohan Singh gov't package. The Home Minister should explain the road map of his government on their return and rehabilitation besides other special measure being taken by his government. Sharma strongly lashed out the divisive policies of Modi government and said that Muslims and other minorities are feeling isolated by the communal actions of BJP, which is dangerous for our unity in diversity of our nation.

Terming passage of Waqf bill an assault on the basic spirit of secularism and concept of equality & freedom to profess religion as well as non interference of the state into religious affairs of any citizen, guaranteed in the constitution, JKPC has said that it has shaken the confidence of minority Muslims in the country, who have developed a feeling that this government wants them to treat like second class citizens in the country.

Indian Army Organised a Stationery Distribution Drive and Drawing Competition at Samote, Rajouri

JINNEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI-06 APR 2025

In a heartfelt initiative to support underprivileged student, Indian Army, in collaboration with NGO (PC Dogra Charitable Trust, Chandigarh) organised a stationery distribution drive and a drawing competition at Govt Middle School, Sadda and Govt Higher Secondary School (GHSS), Samote on 06 Apr 2025. The NGO generously contributed essential educational materials to poor and needy students, ensuring that students have the necessary resources to continue their studies. As part of the event, students received notebooks, pens, pencils and other stationery items to aid their studies. Additionally, a drawing competi-



tion was held, encouraging students to express their creativity and artistic skills. The competition saw enthusiastic participation, with students showcasing their talent through vibrant and meaningful artworks. Winners were awarded prizes to further motivate them in their creative endeavors. Representatives from the NGO emphasised the significance of education and extracurricular activities in shaping young minds, expressing their com-

mitment to supporting economically weaker students. By providing these educational resources and encouraging artistic expression, the initiative aimed to remove barriers to learning and foster all-round development among students. A total of 180 students from Govt Middle School, Sadda and 100 Students from Govt Higher Secondary School, Samote availed the benefit of distribution of stationery. The event not only provided much needed

assistance to the students but also strengthened the bond between the local population and the Indian Army. The school administration expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Indian Army and the NGO for their generous support, acknowledging the positive influence such initiatives have on student motivation. The Indian Army reaffirmed its dedication to community development and assured continued efforts to uplift education in the region.

Police Seizes Over 30 Kgs of Narcotic Substance in Major Anti-Drug Operation in Anantnag, 03 arrested

JINNEWS SERVICE
ANANTNAG, APR 6

In a major success in the fight against the drug menace, Police in Anantnag carried out a series of well-coordinated raids during the intervening night, resulting in the recovery of a large quantity of narcotic substances from three separate residential houses in village Wantrag, falling under the jurisdiction of Police Station Mattan.

Acting on specific information, Police Station Mattan raided the residence of Reyaz Ahmad Khan son of Sher Afzal Khan resident of Wantrag. Officers recovered 3 Kgs 670 grams of Charas Powder from the said resi-



and recovered 23 Kgs 330 grams of Charas Powder. In another operation, a raid was conducted at the residence of Reyaz Ahmad Khan son of Sher Afzal Khan resident of Wantrag. Officers recovered 3 Kgs 670 grams of Charas Powder from the said resi-

dential house. In the third instance, Police raided the house of Nowshad Pathan son of Kastiyi Pathan resident of Wantrag, leading to the recovery of 3 Kgs 900 grams of Charas Powder. These operations lead to the recovery of over-all 30 Kgs 900 grams of Charas

Powder. Additionally, the accused persons have also been arrested.

Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered and investigations are underway, and more arrests and recoveries are expected.

These successful operations are part of J&K Police's continued drive to eliminate drug trafficking and substance abuse from the district. J&K Police reiterates its commitment to making the region drug-free and appeals to the public to come forward with any information related to drug peddling or other illegal activities.

Police arrests drug peddler in Awantipora, contraband substance recovered

JINNEWS SERVICE
AWANTIPORA, APR 6

Continuing its drive against the drug dealers, Police in Awantipora have arrested a drug peddler from Gadikhal area of

Police Post Toll Plaza. During vehicle checking at Gadikhal Chersoo, a Police party of Police Post Toll Plaza under the supervision of IC PP Toll Plaza apprehended a drug peddler riding a scooty, identi-

fied as Abdul Rashid Khan son of Gh Mohd Khan residing in Poshwan. During search, 2.8 Kgs of Charas Powder like substance was recovered from his possession. Scooty used in the commission of crime has

also been seized. Accordingly, a case vide FIR Number 71/2025 under relevant sections of law stands registered at Police Station Awantipora and investigation has been initiated.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah attends I-League match at TRC Ground

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APRIL 6

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Sunday attended an I-League football match between Real Kashmir Football Club (RKFC) and Churchill Brothers Goa at the TRC Ground in Srinagar. He was accompanied by his Advisor, Nasir Aslam Wani, Commissioner Secretary Youth Services & Sports, Secretary J&K Sports

Council and other senior officials. The match was witnessed by a spirited large local crowd. The thrilling encounter ended in a 1-1 draw. As a gesture of support, Omar Abdullah wore the Real Kashmir FC jersey, symbolizing his solidarity with the team and its growing fan base. The Chief Minister lauded Real Kashmir FC for creat-



ing opportunities for Kashmiri youth to participate in top-tier national football leagues. He also interacted with the players and officials of both teams, commending their performance and sportsmanship.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

Amit Shah arrives in...

will first take stock of various development programmes in the UT at a meeting to be held at the Raj Bhavan in Srinagar.

Subsequently, he will attend another meeting at the Raj Bhavan in Srinagar where the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir will be reviewed, the officials said.

Earlier in the day, J&K BJP president Sat Sharma hoisted the party flag at the party headquarters in presence of senior party leaders including MP Jugal Kishore Sharma, former deputy chief minister Kavinder Gupta, and Leader of Opposition in J&K Assembly Sunil Sharma.

Senior party leaders also hoisted party flags at all organizational district headquarters, BJP offices, and at the rooftops of the houses of the BJP activists across Jammu and Kashmir to mark the party's 46th foundation day, a party spokesperson said.

Dr Jitendra lauds CSIR...

Hyderabad: CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (CSIR-ICT), CSIR-National Geophysical Research Institute (CSIR-NGRI), and CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CSIR-CCMB) attended the meeting. The meeting served as a platform for the Directors to present recent achievements and strategic scientific contributions of their respective institutes.

The Minister was briefed by Dr. D. Srinivasa Reddy (Director, CSIR-ICT), Dr. Prakash Kumar (Director, CSIR-NGRI) and Dr. Vinay Nandicoori (Director, CSIR-CCMB). Dr. D. Srinivasa Reddy, Director of CSIR-ICT, briefed the Minister on the institute's pioneering contributions in advancing India's chemical and pharmaceutical sectors.

The institute has also developed safer and more effective agrochemicals, and its work in catalysis has led to novel catalysts for hydrogenation, oxidation, and polymerization processes used widely in industrial applications.

Dr. Reddy highlighted CSIR-ICT's key achievements including the development of compostable plastics in association with GreenWorksBio. He also highlighted the development of Hydrazine Hydrate in collaboration with Gujarat Alkalies and Chemicals Limited (GACL). In the domain of sustainable technologies, the institute's Anaerobic Gas Lift Reactor (AGR) technology enables efficient conversion of biodegradable waste into biogas and bio-manure.

Dr. Vinay Nandicoori, Director of CSIR-CCMB, elaborated on the institute's accomplishments in molecular biology, genetic diagnostics, and biotechnological innovation. He highlighted that CCMB was the first Indian institution to develop DNA fingerprinting technology, which has had a lasting impact on forensic investigations and legal proceedings in the country. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the institute responded swiftly by developing indigenous diagnostic kits, surveillance systems, and even advancing mRNA vaccine technologies. One of CCMB's most impactful initiatives has been its work on sickle cell anemia, under which it developed a highly sensitive, low-cost diagnostic kit as part of the National Sickle Cell Elimination Mission.

The institute is also engaged in research on diseases like tuberculosis and encephalitis and has launched India's first rare disease registry to better understand the genetic basis of uncommon disorders. Through its Atal Incubation Centre (AIC-CCMB), the institute has nurtured more than 160 startups working on biotech innovations in healthcare, agriculture, and environmental sustainability. In the realm of conservation, CCMB continues to lead studies on the genetic diversity of endangered species, such as tigers and olive ridley turtles, and supports wildlife forensics to curb illegal poaching and trade. Dr. Nandicoori emphasized the institute's dual commitment to fundamental research and societal application, bridging deep science with real-world outcomes.

Dr. Prakash Kumar, Director of CSIR-NGRI, presented the institute's significant achievements in earth sciences, particularly in the areas of seismic hazard mapping, resource exploration, and infrastructure support. He noted that NGRI has developed India's first strain map to assess earthquake vulnerability in the Himalayan and Indo-Gangetic regions, a critical step toward national disaster preparedness. The institute is also conducting deep seismic profiling under a national program aimed at decoding the crustal structure of central India, which holds implications for both tectonic studies and mineral exploration. NGRI's work on geothermal energy, particularly in Ladakh and Chhattisgarh, has opened new frontiers for clean and renewable energy.

Dr. Jitendra Singh appreciated the vital role played by the CSIR laboratories in driving scientific innovation, supporting national missions, and contributing to India's goal of becoming a self-reliant knowledge economy. He emphasized the importance of science-based solutions for national development, especially in addressing societal challenges and promoting sustainability.

The Minister said that Hyderabad has emerged as a thriving ecosystem for scientific research, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

In light of the contributions of these three institutes during the meeting it was decided to organize a CSIR Startup Conclave in Hyderabad. The event, scheduled for April 22-23, 2025, aims to facilitate collaboration between research institutions and startups, and promote entrepreneurship in India. The conclave will be organized jointly by CSIR-ICT, CSIR-NGRI, and CSIR-CCMB.

Dr. Jitendra Singh reiterated the Modi government's commitment to fostering a culture of innovation, commercialization, and self-reliance in science and technology.

J&K emerging from...

traditional cuisine or natural beauty—to the visiting guests," he said.

The Chief Minister noted that while the Ministry of Minority Affairs may appear smaller in scope, its work holds deep national significance.

"In a country as diverse as ours—with different ways of life, multiple languages, varied cuisines and unique cultures—it is crucial to foster a sense of belonging and unity. The ministry plays a key role in ensuring that every citizen, regardless of background, feels part of the nation's progress," he said.

He further acknowledged that the event has enabled local artisans, including those involved in handicrafts and traditional wazwan cuisine, to showcase their exceptional talent.

"The magic in their hands is on full display. At the same time, it is heartening to see participants from across the country sharing this platform," he added.

Referring to the tourist rush coinciding with the onset of the spring season, he said: "I understand the challenges many of you may have faced in reaching here—especially due to the traffic around the Tulip Garden. But what can we say—the charm of Kashmir draws everyone in." The Chief Minister expressed hope that guests from across the country will carry back fond memories of the event and the valley's hospitality.

Urging the Union Minister to continue his ministry's support for Jammu & Kashmir, the Chief Minister said the region continues to face various challenges, including unemployment. "Your ministry's initiatives—be it in education, skill training or market access—are vital. Our artisans work hard but struggle to reach broader markets. They face challenges in grooming the next generation for this craft, and often do not receive adequate support in skill development and training. I hope your ministry will help bridge this gap," he said.

Cyber Police Kashmir...

Bulk payout facilities provided by banks are also being misused in this process to distribute proceeds quickly.

These accounts typically remain active for a short span, often less than a week—before being flagged due to suspicious transactions. However, within this brief window, transactions worth crores of rupees are executed and funneled across a chain of accounts, Senior Superintendent of Police, Srinagar, Imtiyaz Hussain said during a press conference.

He said Cyber Police Kashmir has also discovered that several local kingpins are managing the operations of these accounts, acting as recruiters and handlers.

"These individuals onboard people, often from economically weaker sections, by offering commissions for account access," he said.

SSP said in response to a request by Cyber Police Kashmir, the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (i4C), MHA, New Delhi has shared a list of 7,200 mule bank accounts operating from the Kashmir Valley alone—created since January 2025.

"This figure is expected to be much higher as the investigation progresses," he said.

He added that the hotspots for mule account activity include areas like Mehjoor Nagar, Natipora, Nowgam, Lasjan, Padshahibagh, Nowhatta, Khanyar, Rainawari, Soura, Batmaloo, Noorbagh, Qamarwari, Parimpora, Mujgund, Bemina, among others. Similar activities have been reported in other districts including Ganderbal, Kangan, Sumbal, Bandipora, Baramulla, Pulwama, Anantnag, Kulgam, and Shopian.

Cyber Police Station Kashmir Zone, Srinagar, has strongly advised citizens not to sell or rent their bank accounts, company registration certificates, or Udhyaam Aadhaar registration documents to any individual or entity. Any such involvement in laundering illicit funds could result in serious legal consequences, including arrest under provisions related to organized crime and cyber fraud.

Wanted Gangster...

various police stations of J-K and Punjab, the spokesperson said.

He said Khan was a member of a gangster group which was active in Manhor Gopala, Check Deyala, Check Manga Gujrain, Mandhara, Rakh Brotia, and Vijaypur in Udhampur and Samba districts.

"His apprehension has given a blow to criminals operating in the area and provided a sigh of relief to the local residents," the spokesperson said.

PUBLIC NOTICE (for Govt Colonies)

The plot number 143 of size 25'x80' in Housing Colony, Shastri Nagar, Jammu has been allotted to Sh. Prem Nath Bhat vide Govt Order number 339-HD of 1973 dated: 01.05.1973, duly registered in my name through Hon'ble Court. The ownership rights of the said plot is under the process of transfer to 1) Sh. Kushank Gupta S/o Sh. Rajinder Kumar Gupta, 103-C Shastri Nagar Jammu, 2) Ms. Sakshi Gupta D/o Vinod Gupta, R/o 808 Main Bazaar, Shakti Nagar Jammu on the basis of sale deed. Any person having any objections to this transfer shall furnish the same in writing to the office of Managing Director, J&K Housing Board, Green Belt Park, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu within a period of 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. Thereafter, no objection will be entertained after the expiry of the above said period.



Anita Gupta
W/o Dershan Kumar Gupta
R/o 253-B, Jeevan Nagar, Jammu

PUBLIC NOTICE (for Govt. Colonies)

I, Kushank Gupta, So/o Rajinder Kumar Gupta, 103-C Shastri Nagar Jammu, and 2) Ms. Sakshi Gupta D/o Vinod Gupta, R/o 808 Main Bazaar, Shakti Nagar Jammu have purchased plot Number 143 size measuring 25'x80' in Housing Colony, Shastri Nagar Jammu from Smt Anita Gupta, W/o Dershan Kumar Gupta R/o 253-B Jeevan Nagar, Jammu. I have applied for transfer of ownership rights of the above said plot in our favour. Objections, if any may be conveyed to the Managing Director, J&K Housing Board, Green Belt Park, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu within a period of 15 days from the publication of this notice. Thereafter, no objection will be entertained after the expiry of the above said period.



1. Kushank Gupta, So/o Rajinder Kumar Gupta, 103-C Shastri Nagar Jammu,
2. Ms. Sakshi Gupta D/o Vinod Gupta, R/o 808 Main Bazaar, Shakti Nagar Jammu

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER TRANS. LINE MAINTT. DIVISION-VIII, JKPTCL, AMBEDKAR CHOWK, JAMMU J&K.

Email: xentlmd8@gmail.com
E-NIT No: TLMD-VIII/J/T/02of2025-26 Dated:-03/04/2025
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Executive Engineer Transmission Line Maintenance Division-VIII, JKPTCL, Ambedkar Chowk, Jammu on behalf of Managing Director of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory, invites online bids under two bid system i.e. Technical bid and Financial bid through J&K Govt. website <https://jktenders.gov.in> from Registered "A" Class Electrical Contractors with Relevant Experience for the Rate Contract for the year 2025-26 for till the finalization of tender for the next financial year for the below mentioned works in accordance with the terms and conditions and specifications described in the tender document :

S. No.	Name of work (Transmission Lines)	Cost Of Tender Document	Earnest Money Deposit	Class Of Contractor
01.	Rate Contract for Preventive/Routine/Breakdown Maintenance of Components for 132KV D/C BARN-CANAL TRANSMISSION LINE, 132KV D/C GLADNI JANIPUR TRANSMISSION LINE, 132 KV D/C BARN KATRA TRANSMISSION LINE, 132KV D/C RAJOURI-DRABA TRANSMISSION LINE, 132KV S/C BARN-JOURIAN TRANSMISSION LINE, 132KV S/C Gladni-KT LINE, 132 KV D/C KALAKOT RAJOURI TRANSMISSION LINE, 132 KV S/C Draba Chandak Transmission Line, 132 KV Barn-Janipur-canal Transmission (Uncharged), 132 KV D/C Gladni-Nagrota Link, 132 KV Miran Sahib Chatha L.I.L.O, 220 kv Gladni-Udhampur T/line (uncharged) for the year 2025-26.	Rs.2000.00 (Two Thousand Only) inclusive of 18% GST.	Rs. 25000 (Twenty five Thousand Only) in the shape of CDR/FDR	"A" Class Electrical Contractors

The bidding documents consisting of quantities (B.O.Q), SBD, set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen / downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in

Other Relevant Information:-

A	Date & Time of downloading of Standard Bidding Document	The Standard Bidding Document can be downloaded over http://jktenders.gov.in from 09-04-2025 (1600 Hrs onwards)
B	Pre-Bid meeting time and venue	On 16-04-2025 in the Office of the Executive Engineer TLMD-VIII JKPTCL, Ambedkar Chowk, Jammu at 1200hrs
C	e-Bid submission (start) date & time	09-04-2025 (1600 Hrs onwards)
D	Last date for submission of hard copy of e-Bid	30-04-2025 upto 1600 Hrs
E	e-Bid online submission (end) date & time	30-04-2025 upto 1600 Hrs
F	Technical Bid opening Date & time	02-05-2025 at 1500 Hrs
G	Financial Bid opening Date & time (Only for the technically qualified Bidders)	Will be communicated to the technically qualified Bidders
H	Venue of the opening Technical & financial Bids	The Office of the Executive Engineer, TLMD-VIII, JKPTCL, Ambedkar Chowk, Jammu

-Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Trans Line Maintt. Division-VIII,
JKPTCL Jammu
No:-TLMD-VIII/J/16-19
DIP/J-101-P/25
Date: 5-4-24

Dated:- 03.04.2025

NSS Volunteers of GGM Science College Lead "Save Tawi Campaign" on the Eve of Ashtami and Mahanavami

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 6

Marking the auspicious occasion of Ashtami and Mahanavami, the NSS Units of Government Gandhi Memorial (GGM) Science College, Jammu, undertook a significant environmental initiative titled the "Save Tawi Campaign". Held over two days at the sacred Bikram Chowk Ghat along the Tawi River, the campaign saw the active participation of around 50 NSS volunteers, who engaged in cleanliness drives and awareness activities focused on conserving the river and its surrounding ecosystem.

The campaign was aimed to highlight the hazards of pollution, especially plastic waste, and its adverse impact on rivers, biodiversity, and public health. Volunteers worked tirelessly to clean the riverbank and engaged with the public, spreading key messages on Hazards of Plastic Usage, Water Pollution and Its Link to Public Health, Loss of Biodiversity Due to Pollution besides, importance of Preserving the Aesthetic and Cultural Value of Natural Resources. The



Volunteers were engaged and guided by, NSS Programme Officers Dr. Rahul Kait and Dr. Neha Sharma, who demonstrated commitment and leadership, making the campaign both effective and inspiring. Their proactive involvement encouraged the students and exemplified the values of social responsibility and environmental stewardship.

Adding strength to the cause, Prof. Amit Pal Kour, NSS Coordinator of Clus-

ter University of Jammu, visited the site to engage with the volunteers. She appreciated their enthusiasm and underscored the essential role of youth participation in ecological conservation. Dr. Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal of GGM Science College, too applauded the initiative, and added that this campaign is a timely and commendable effort that showcases our duty toward environmental protection. It reflects the spirit of com-

munity service and sets a benchmark for others to emulate. Dr. Gupta further added that, the "Save Tawi Campaign" not only instilled environmental awareness among students but also inspired the local community to join the movement for sustainable living. Through such impactful initiatives, GGM Science College continues to champion the values of community engagement, environmental care, and nation-building.

Police hosts workshop on key policing portals and digital tools in Anantnag

JINNEWS SERVICE
ANANTNAG, APRIL 6

As part of its ongoing efforts to strengthen digital capabilities and upskill its personnel, Police in Anantnag conducted one-day workshop at the District Police Office Anantnag, focusing on vital policing portals and tools.

The workshop covered a range of critical digital platforms, including IIF Feeding in CCTNS CAS, ICJS Portal, CRIMAC, NAFIS, IMOT, NIDAAN, E-Sakshya, E-Summons, IGOT, MedLEAPR, CEIR, Naya Shurti, E-Sankalan and IRAD. Master trainers



from District Anantnag led the session, offering hands-on demonstrations and insights into the prac-

tical utility of these platforms in modern policing. The workshop saw active participation from SP Headquarters Anantnag Shri Sajad Ahmad, SP Operations Shri Furqan Qadir, ASP Shri Ghulam Hassan, along with all DySPs of the district.

This initiative signifies a major stride in embracing digital solutions to enhance operational efficiency, transparency and service delivery within the police force.

J&K Police reaffirms its commitment to professional growth and leveraging technology for effective and responsive policing.

Police destroys Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances worth lacs in Sopore



JINNEWS SERVICE
SOPORE, APR 6

District Drug Disposal Committee headed by SP Sopore Smt. Divya D-IPS and DySP DAR Sopore in compliance to Hon'ble Special Court (NDPS) Baramulla Order, destroyed Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances worth lacs. This consign- ment of Narcotic/Psychotropic Drugs were seized in different NDPS cases registered in different Police Stations of Police District Sopore. The destruction

was done through incineration at earmarked/ approved location at Laspipora Pulwama.

During incineration, 4.646 Kgs of Poppy Straw/ Powder, 30 Bottles of Codeine Phosphate, 10 Alpha Drug Tablets & 1981 Capsules of SpasmoProxvyn has been destroyed after following all legal requirements as envisaged under Rules, 2022 & was done strictly in compliance to directions issued by the Hon'ble Special Court (NDPS) Baramulla.

Police Organizes Football Tournament in Anantnag



JINNEWS SERVICE
ANANTNAG, APR 6

Under the banner of Civic Action Programme (CAP) 2024-25, Police in Anantnag inaugurated a football tournament for boys at the Shaheed Himayun Muzammil Memorial Government Degree College, Anantnag.

The event is aimed at promoting sportsmanship, discipline and constructive engagement among the youth of the district. A total of 08 teams from various areas are participating in the tournament,

which is expected to witness spirited competition and camaraderie.

The opening match was played between FC Khanabal and FC Dialgam, with FC Dialgam securing victory in an exciting and closely contested game.

Through such initiatives, J&K Police continues to reaffirm its commitment to fostering youth development, encouraging positive recreational activities, and building strong community-police relations based on trust and cooperation.

Withdraw the Divisive and Unjust 'Waqf Amendment Act' Immediately

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 6

This 24th Congress of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) condemns the passage of the 'Waqf Amendment Bill' by Parliament. This legislation is an assault on the Constitution and the rights of minorities. The CPI(M) calls upon all secular people and organisations of the country to protest against this Act which will only increase communal polarization and damage the secular fabric of the nation.

The earlier Waqf Act was a legal framework governing Waqf properties (Islamic endowments) and ensuring their proper administration, protection and utilization for religious and charitable purposes. It provided guidelines for the regulation of Waqf properties, preventing their misuse and unauthorized sale.

The amended Act makes significant changes which will undermine the foun-

dational principles laid out in the earlier Act. Through this amendment the BJP Government is pushing its Hindutva agenda, aiming to divide people. It has been repeatedly claiming that the earlier Act has been used for extensive land grab by Muslims.

Despite Islamic injunctions prohibiting non-Muslims from managing Waqf properties, the amended Act includes non-Muslims in Waqf Boards. This is an attack on the Constitutional right of the Muslims to practice their religion.

By making it mandatory that only a Muslim who can prove that he/she has followed the religion for at least five years, the amended Act is opening the way for harassment of Muslims and can actually prevent them from creating or contributing to Waqf properties. Many non-Muslims also contribute to the building of Mosques etc. and this expression of brotherhood and fraternity will no longer be possible under

the amended Act.

By abolishing Section 40 of the Waqf Act, the Waqf Board will lose its authority to determine the nature of Waqf properties. Waqf properties primarily fall into four categories: Waqf by Deed (documented), Waqf by Oral Declaration (verbally declared), Waqf by Use (established through prolonged usage), and government-granted lands. Under the new amendments, the majority of Waqf properties in the country—those declared orally or through usage—will become vulnerable to government takeover.

States with the largest Waqf holdings, such as Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Kerala, will face targeted appropriation of these assets through the proposed amendments.

By transferring the authority to determine Waqf properties to the Survey Commissioner to government-appointed revenue officials, the gov-

ernment aims to seize places of worship, educational institutions, health-care facilities, and vocational centres, thereby consolidating control over Waqf assets.

The new mandate requiring the registration of thousands of Waqf properties historically established through long-term usage exposes the government's covert agenda to confiscate them.

By stripping the Waqf Tribunal of its powers, the Waqf Board itself will be alienated from the community it serves.

Through these amendments, the Central Government is advancing its agenda of eradicating the rights of Muslims, mirroring the exclusionary intent of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA).

To safeguard the secular and democratic fabric of the nation, all secular and democratic-minded citizens must unite to demand the withdrawal of this divisive Waqf Amendment Act.

UNNAT helped the needy people, also organized a Jagran

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 6

The office bearers of UNNAT NGO today visited Rehan Basera Shelter Home at Bahu Fort area and provided essential food items. The program was presided over by Neena Abrol, General Secretary of UNNAT NGO. Jagran was also organized on the occasion of Navratri.

On this occasion, Neena Abrol said that the UNNAT organization is making continuous efforts for the needy and the weaker sections of the society. She said that work is being done for the



welfare of the society and our mission is getting support.

The Treasurer of UNNAT,

Dr Anuradha said that the members of our NGO came to the Rehan Basera shelter and tried to extend a helping

hand to the elderly people living there. She further said that we will continue to provide such help in the future as well. UNNAT NGO thanked the persons running this shelter. Lauding their efforts she said that we all should come forward and help such organizations.

In the end, a vote of thanks was presented by President Rehan Basera Shelter Home.

Veena Bakshi, Rakesh Abrol, Ravi Sethi, Suman Abrol, Kanchan Sharma, Anjali Sethi, Radhika Suri, Rajni and others were present in the program.

BJP celebrates its foundation Day with fervour

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 6

J&K BJP led by its President Sat Sharma, Leader of Opposition & General Secretary, J&K BJP Sunil Sharma, General secretary (organization) Ashok Koul, MP Jugal Kishore Sharma, former Dy CM Kavinder Gupta and other senior leaders of party celebrated its foundation Day with fervor and enthusiasm at the party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Ashok Khajuria, Anuradha Charak, Rajinder Sharma, Veenu Khanna, Ayodhya Gupta, District President Naresh Singh Jasrotia, Tilak Raj Gupta, Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Suraj Singh, Baldev Singh Billawaria, Chander Mohan Sharma, Vinay Gupta, HS Pamm, Sunil Prajapati, Puneet Mahajan, Rekha Mahajan and others were also present during the flag hoisting at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Similarly, senior party leaders hoisted party flags at all the organizational district headquarters, BJP offices, and at the rooftops of the houses of the BJP activists around Jammu & Kashmir. BJP leaders distributed sweets and greeted each other to mark the



foundation day of the party.

Tarun Chugh, BJP National General Secretary & Prabhari J&K BJP accompanied by MLAs Rajeev Jasrotia, & Adv. Vijay Sharma, Raghunandan Singh Bablu, District President Updesh Andotra, Gopal Mahajan, Prem Nath Dogra, Kuldeep Raj and other leaders hoisted the party flag at BJP office, Kathua.

Sat Sharma, accompanied by MLA Arvind Gupta, Rajeev Charak, District Presidents Rajesh Gupta, & Rajeev Pandita, Ayodhya Gupta, Veenu Khanna, Anju Dogra, Prabhat Singh Jamwal, Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Narayan Singh, Munish Khajuria, Sanjita Dogra, Arun Prabhat, Prem Gupta, Sunil Prajapati, Sanjay Baru, Jaideep Sambyal,

J&K BJP General Secretary (organization) Ashok Koul accompanied by District President, Rashpaul

Verma, Narayan Singh, Munish Khajuria and other senior leaders hoisted the party flag at BJP office, Samba.

In Srinagar, Kashmir, Union MoS George Kurian, J&K BJP Senior Leader Dr Darakhshan Andrabi and other leaders hoisted the party flag at the party office.

Prabhari District Doda, Pawan Sharma, accompanied by Satya Sharma, Rakesh Sharma, Chander Mohan Sharma, and others hoisted the party flag at Barshalla, Doda.

Tarun Chugh, while hoisting the party flag, stressed on the "Nation First, Party Second, Self Last" policy of BJP. The BJP activist works on a mission mode to serve the motherland with unmatched activism and zeal to serve the needy, oppressed and the marginalized sections of society.

Chugh said, "We never

compromised on ideology for votes, and never compromised to gain power. The BJP is the only party that has kept the ideological establishment adamant and is continuously moving forward with the strength of the same."

Sat Sharma asserted that BJP is working on a mission mode to build a new India, with the empowerment of society and strengthening India on scientific, economic and defense fronts. He recalled that starting its journey from Jana Sangha to the BJP, the organization has evolved according to the needs of the society, nation and contemporary world but never compromised on its ideology and commitment to serve the nation and society.

Sunil Sharma paid respects to all those great souls who have sacrificed everything for the BJP's noble mission and expressed his gratitude to all activists of the party for their unwavering dedication.

Ashok Koul, in his address asked the party activists to hoist the party flag at their rooftops and commit themselves to serve the nation, party and society even with more zeal with every passing day.

EDITORIAL

Deepening trust deficit within Congress

The protest by Congress workers from Jammu and Kashmir outside the All India Congress Committee (AICC) headquarters in New Delhi is not just a moment of dissent—it is a loud and clear message, signaling the deepening rot within the party's state unit. The slogans of "Remove Karra, Save Congress" and "Congress Workers Betrayed by Mir and Karra" have a strong message that the party high command can no longer afford to ignore: the Congress in Jammu and Kashmir is imploding under the weight of its own internal contradictions. At the heart of the storm are two senior leaders—JKPCC President Tariq Hameed Karra and AICC General Secretary Ghulam Ahmad Mir—accused by protesting workers of dismantling the party's grassroots strength and alienating loyal cadres who once stood by the party even during the bloodiest years of militancy. These were workers who risked their lives for the Congress banner when being associated with the party could mean death. Today, their sacrifice is being met with indifference and internal sabotage. The demonstrators, many of them long-time loyalists, did not demand ministerial berths or personal favours. They asked for accountability, for leadership that respects the cadre, and for a chance to salvage a party that is now a shadow of its former self in the region. Their protest, raw and emotional, paints a grim picture of the Congress's standing in J&K—a picture marred by disillusionment, distrust, and decay. But rather than addressing these valid concerns, the party high command appears more interested in damage control than damage repair. Reports suggest that disciplinary action is being considered against a senior leader who allegedly backed the protesters, and that evidence of "anti-party activity" is being gathered to penalize those who dared to speak out. This reaction—authoritarian, dismissive, and tone-deaf—only confirms the worst fears of party workers: that the Congress is more interested in silencing dissent than saving itself. It is this very attitude that has brought the party to the brink in Jammu and Kashmir. Once a formidable force, the Congress today finds itself politically irrelevant, organizationally weak, and emotionally disconnected from its base. The blame, protesters argue, lies squarely with leaders like Karra and Mir, whose style of leadership has reportedly eroded trust, destroyed internal democracy, and pushed the party towards ruin. The crisis within the J&K Congress is not just a regional issue—it is emblematic of a larger malaise afflicting Congress across the country. When leadership becomes synonymous with entitlement, when feedback is treated as rebellion, and when loyal workers are punished for asking tough questions, the fall of a political institution becomes inevitable. If the Congress high command fails to listen now, this episode may well go down in history as the last nail in the coffin of the party's presence in Jammu and Kashmir. It is not too late to act. But for that, the Congress must choose courage over comfort, accountability over arrogance, and truth over tokenism. The clock is ticking.

Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025: Empowering women, restoring justice

SHEFALI GUPTA

For generations, Waqf has helped people by funding education, healthcare and jobs. However, many women have not received its benefits because they had limited access to resources and decision-making. The Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025, aims to change this. It brings new rules to ensure Muslim women get their rightful share of inheritance, financial support and a stronger role in managing Waqf properties.

One of the biggest changes in the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, of 2025, is the protection of women's inheritance rights in family Waqf (Waqf-alal-aulad). The Bill states that no one can dedicate property to Waqf unless female heirs have first received their rightful inheritance.

This prevents families from using Waqf as a way to deny women their share of property. Section 3A(2) makes sure that women are not unfairly left out when Waqf properties are created. The Bill also expands the purpose of Waqf-alal-aulad to provide financial support to widows, divorced women, and orphans.

Section 3(r)(iv) allows Waqf funds to be used for their welfare and maintenance. This will provide economic security to women and children in need, following Islamic principles of welfare and justice.

Another major change in the Bill is increasing women's role in Waqf governance. It ensures that two Muslim women must be included in State Waqf Boards (Section 14) and the Central Waqf Council (Section 9).

This means women will now have a voice in deciding how Waqf resources are used and managed. Having more women in Waqf governance will help ensure that funds are spent on important needs like scholarships for Muslim girls, healthcare and maternity support, skill training and microfinance for women entrepreneurs and legal help for inheritance and domestic violence cases.

The Bill also focuses on making Waqf fairer by fixing past inequalities. By giving women decision-making power and financial security, it creates a more balanced and just Waqf system.



In addition, the Bill promotes setting up vocational training centres and self-help groups (SHGs) to help Muslim women become financially independent. These centres will offer training in fields like healthcare, business and fashion design, helping women find jobs or start their businesses.

A key reform in the Bill is the digitisation of Waqf records. Digital records will improve transparency, prevent corruption and ensure that Waqf money is used properly. This is especially important for women, as it guarantees that funds meant for their welfare are not misused.

The Waqf (Amendment) Bill, of 2025, is a big step toward making Waqf a tool for social welfare and justice. By securing inheritance rights, helping widows and divorced women, increasing women's role in governance and promoting economic independence, the bill aims to create long-term gender equality in the Waqf administration.

These reforms will open new doors for Muslim women, making sure that Waqf truly supports their progress and empowerment in the years to come.

Further, Waqf has always been meant to help the community by providing education, healthcare, housing and support for the poor.

However, problems like mis-

management, corruption and inefficiency have often prevented Waqf properties from benefiting those who need them most.

The big problem in Waqf management was lack of transparency, leading to corruption and misuse of funds.

The new Bill introduces a digital portal to record all Waqf properties, making it easier to track and audit them.

This ensures that funds are not misused and are spent on helping the poor.

With mandatory financial audits and digital records, this change will reduce corruption and make Waqf management more accountable to the people.

The Bill ensures that Waqf properties and funds are used to improve healthcare services for the poor.

This includes, setting up clinics and hospitals on Waqf lands to provide free or low-cost healthcare, partnering with charities to fund medical aid programs and making medicines and essential treatments more available in poor areas.

With better management, more people will get access to healthcare, reducing medical costs and improving public health.

Education is a key way to fight poverty. The Bill ensures that Waqf funds are used for – building and maintaining schools and madrasahs, providing scholar-

ships and financial aid to poor students and supporting vocational training centres to teach job skills.

By focusing on education, the Bill helps people from poor backgrounds get better jobs and improve their lives.

Many poor people struggle with housing. The Bill allows Waqf Boards to use properties for affordable housing. Section 32(4) permits building low-cost housing for the poor providing shelters for homeless people and creating subsidised rental programs for low-income families.

This ensures that Waqf properties are used to help people instead of being left unused or taken over illegally.

Helping people become financially independent is important for reducing poverty. The Bill supports setting up training centers for skills like carpentry, tailoring and digital literacy, providing small loans to help people start businesses, connecting trained workers with jobs, this approach helps people earn a living rather than relying only on charity.

A major issue with Waqf properties is illegal occupation. According to the WAMS portal, nearly 58,898 Waqf properties have been taken over unlawfully.

The Bill introduces stronger legal measures to reclaim illegally occupied Waqf lands for

social welfare projects, give district collectors more power to protect Waqf properties and prevent unauthorised claims that take away resources meant for the poor.

These steps will ensure that Waqf properties are used properly to help those in need. The Bill also ensures fairness and inclusivity, making sure aid reaches all communities in need.

It prioritises poor people and uses data to make better decisions about Waqf resources. Additionally, the Bill includes measures to prevent disputes over land belonging to non-Muslims, so that welfare efforts are not disrupted. The Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025, is not just about managing properties – it is about making Waqf a strong tool for helping the poor.

By increasing transparency, stopping corruption, improving healthcare and education, providing affordable housing and supporting employment, the Bill ensures that Waqf serves its true purpose.

These reforms will help Waqf fulfil its original mission—supporting the underprivileged and creating a fairer and more just society.

The Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025, is a transformative step toward equity and justice in Waqf management. By safeguarding women's inheritance rights, expanding support for widows and orphans and ensuring female representation in governance, the Bill strengthens gender equality.

It promotes transparency through digitised records, combats corruption and empowers communities through healthcare, education, housing and employment initiatives.

With legal measures to reclaim illegally occupied lands and ensure inclusive welfare, the Bill restores Waqf's original mission – supporting the underprivileged.

These comprehensive reforms make Waqf a more accountable, accessible and powerful instrument for social upliftment and long-term community development.

(The writer is founder President Om Aarohanam Sansthan (Janani Suraksha Yojana) and a BJP functionary. Views expressed are personal)

NEP 2020: Vision for transforming India

RAMA SHANKAR DUBEY

Education serves as the bedrock for the holistic development of an individual, laying the foundation for the quality of human life. Its role in shaping a civilised and cultured society is paramount. Education must offer a comprehensive and integrated approach from the very beginning of life. In its true sense, holistic education examines all facets of human existence. It is designed to nurture physical and mental well-being, foster moral values, build character, cultivate patriotism, enhance knowledge and promote the development of a skilled personality. All this, while striking a balance between spiritualism and materialism, with the goal being the welfare of humanity. The core objective of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 is to create citizens who are firmly grounded in Indian values yet possess a global outlook.

The policy reflects the richness and significance of India's cultural heritage and traditions. By championing a value-based education system, the NEP 2020 aims to cultivate citizens

who possess truthfulness, religious conduct, peace, love, non-violence, a scientific mindset and a commitment to universal human values. There is no doubt that the NEP 2020 will not only enrich students with multidisciplinary and multi-dimensional knowledge but will also equip them with the character to engage with global challenges while remaining deeply rooted in the cultural fabric of India. These youth will not only address contemporary global issues but will also carry the torch for the revival of India's cultural renaissance on the global stage.

Education in mother tongue

Language is not merely a medium of communication but an essential pillar of identity, heritage, and societal wealth. The revered poet and philosopher Bharatendu Harishchandra once said, "Nij bhasha Unnati Ahe, Sab Unnati ko Mool" – meaning the progress of society is intricately tied to the development of its native language.

The NEP 2020 empowers us to take pride in our mother tongue, simultane-

ously freeing us from the shackles of colonial mentality. If education is delivered in a foreign language rather than in the mother tongue, it not only hinders the learning process but also turns the adoption of another language into an unnecessary burden. The Macaulay-led education system, which promoted Western ideals, inflicted long-lasting damage to India's traditional education framework, leading to the marginalisation of Indian languages and knowledge systems.

The NEP 2020 seeks to dismantle this colonial legacy by promoting the use of local languages, which are the true vessels of culture and philosophy. It is widely acknowledged that language shapes thoughts, behaviour, and culture, making the provision of education in the mother tongue a significant step forward in the NEP's vision.

The ancient Indian education system, known for its emphasis on holistic development, did not merely focus on academic achievement but integrated religious teachings, moral education and the cultivation of human values. A cornerstone of



the prosperity of Indian society was its deep-rooted commitment to character building. The Indian system of education aimed not only to impart knowledge but to shape individuals into virtuous, well-rounded citizens.

The National Education Policy 2020 continues this tradition by incorporating physical, mental, spiritual and moral development into its framework. From the earliest Vedic traditions, character building has been recognised as essential to the human experience.

For any nation's progress, its citizens must have a profound understanding of introspection, reflection, and philosophical inquiry. The NEP 2020 emphasises nurturing citizens with high moral character and ethical conduct, serving as catalysts for India's reconstruc-

tion. Swami Vivekananda famously stated, "The true education is that which enables us to build our life, become human, shape our character and harmonise our thoughts." Similarly, Madan Mohan Malviya envisioned an educational philosophy that integrates the overall development of individuals with a deep sense of patriotism, selflessness and respect for society.

Fostering research and innovation

The NEP 2020 envisions an education system that fosters critical skills such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, design thinking, holistic health and biological sciences. The policy has curated curricula at all levels to encourage the development of these essential skills. Importantly, the NEP emphasises that eval-

uation should go beyond rote memorisation, focusing instead on creative, reflective learning assessments.

In addition, the NEP encourages students to engage in internships with local industries, artisans and entrepreneurs, providing them with real-world experience. Higher education institutions, the hubs of knowledge creation, are being equipped to foster innovation and cutting-edge research. Through this emphasis on research, students will have the opportunity to excel and become pioneers in the realms of knowledge and technology.

Indian knowledge traditions

One of the key features of the NEP 2020 is its emphasis on the inclusion of Indian knowledge traditions within the curriculum. This initiative aims to cultivate social, cultural, and moral values among students, while also enhancing their creative and problem-solving skills. To restore India's position as a global leader, it is imperative to revive the rich intellectual heritage of ancient Indian knowledge systems. The integration of

these traditions into education aligns with India's Sustainable Development Agenda for 2030, which aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education for all.

Moreover, teachers are being trained in these traditions so that they can impart the wisdom of India's heritage to their students. The policy's promotion of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary education allows students to engage in a more holistic approach to learning, enabling them to explore multiple fields of study simultaneously. The NEP's focus on student-centric, research-oriented and innovative higher education will ensure that the academic environment is more conducive to creativity and intellectual growth.

Paving path for innovation

India's startup ecosystem has witnessed remarkable growth in recent years, positioning the country as the third-largest startup hub globally. The rise of startups in India has significantly contributed to the nation's progressive economy. From just 350 startups in 2014, the number has soared to over 159,000, with more than 11

unicorns fostering technological innovation.

With the advent of the NEP 2020, this surge in startups is expected to accelerate. Unlike traditional education policies, NEP 2020 goes beyond textbooks, emphasising innovation, research and problem-solving skills.

The policy aims to foster practical, real-world skills alongside theoretical knowledge. By focusing on critical thinking, creativity, collaboration and entrepreneurship, the NEP is preparing India's youth to thrive in a rapidly evolving global landscape.

The primary vision of the NEP 2020 is to create an education system that not only prepares students to become global citizens but also ensures that they are deeply rooted in Indian ethics, knowledge, skills and values.

The holistic education approach, with its commitment to human rights, sustainable development and global welfare, will empower the youth of India to shape the future of the world.

(The writer is Vice-Chancellor Central University of Gujarat, Vadodara. Views expressed are personal)

Researchers find novel genes linked to rare childhood diarrhoea

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI

A team of Canadian researchers has identified three novel genes linked to rare childhood diarrhoea.

The rare condition called CODE (congenital diarrhoea and enteropathies) disrupts the function of cells in the intestine, causing diarrhoea. It also prevents infants from absorbing the nutrients they need to grow and thrive.

The team from The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) conducted genome sequencing on 129 infants with suspected CODE.

The scientists characterised the function of novel CODE genes using advanced computational methods and zebrafish models.

The analysis was remarkably successful, providing a diagnosis for 48 per cent of cases.

The findings, published



in the New England Journal of Medicine, found three new genes associated with CODE -- GRWD1, MYO1A, and MON1A -- and provided answers to 62 families.

"Undiagnosed infantile diarrhoea can be fatal, but even when it isn't, early diagnosis of rare conditions can help provide

much-needed answers for families," said Dr. Aleixo Muise, Staff Gastroenterologist and Senior Scientist in the Cell and Systems Biology programme at SickKids.

"As a result of this study, we can now provide a diagnosis to more families and move closer to precision treatments tailored to

their child's specific genetic variant," Muise added.

ODEs are associated with high morbidity and mortality. Although the treatment of these disorders is largely supportive, emerging targeted therapies based on genetic diagnoses include specific diets, pharmacologic treatments, and surgical interventions.

A genetic diagnosis alone can provide relief to many families, said the team.

They noted that understanding the genetic and functional underpinnings of the conditions, including three new pathways, can also move scientists closer to targeted treatments.

In addition to the genes, in the case series of 129 infants with suspected congenital diarrhoeal disorders, the team identified causal variants, including a new founder NEUROG3 variant, in 62 infants (48 per cent).

Air pollution exposure in childhood may affect brain's thinking, controlling capacity: Study

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI

Children exposed to higher levels of air pollution in early and mid-childhood may have weaker connections between key brain regions that can highly impact their thinking and controlling capacity, according to a study.

The findings, published in Environment International, highlight the potential impact of early exposure to air pollution on brain development.

The research led by the Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal) in Spain showed reduced functional connectivity within and between certain cortical and subcortical brain networks in kids with increased exposure to air pollution.

These networks are systems of interconnected brain structures that work together to perform different cognitive functions, such as thinking, perceiv-



ing, and controlling movement, said the team.

"These associations persist throughout adolescence, which may indicate persistent disruptions in the normal development of brain networks due to pollution exposure. This

could affect emotional processing and cognitive functions," said Monica Guxens, ICREA researcher at ISGlobal.

The study analysed data from 3,626 children exposed to air pollution at the participants' resi-

dences, including particulate matter (PM2.5 and PM10), nitrogen dioxide (NO2), and nitrogen oxides (NOX).

The results show that greater exposure to air pollution from birth to three years old is associated with lower connectivity between the amygdala and the cortical networks involved in attention, somatomotor function -- which coordinates body movements -- and auditory function.

Additionally, higher exposure to PM10 particles in the year before the neuroimaging assessment was associated with lower functional connectivity between the salience and medial-parietal networks -- responsible for detecting stimuli in the environment and for introspection and self-perception.

"However, more research is needed to confirm these findings and to understand their exact impact on brain development," Guxens said.

US tariffs: Global brokerage firm Citi sees minimal impact on Indian pharma firms

AGENCIES
MUMBAI

Global brokerage firm Citi said on Tuesday there is a low likelihood of the US imposing tariffs on Indian pharmaceuticals, despite ongoing discussions around the issue.

The brokerage firm analysed the potential effects of a 10 per cent tariff on Indian pharmaceutical companies, particularly those with significant exposure to the US generics market.

Currently, India imposes a 10 per cent tariff on pharmaceutical imports from the US, while the US does not levy any tariff on pharmaceutical imports from India.

According to Citi's analysis, some big companies could face a potential EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortisation) hit of 9-12 per cent.

However, if part of the tariff is passed on to US



buyers, the impact could reduce to around 5-6 per cent, though passing the full cost on to buyers is seen as challenging.

Citi also noted that companies with less exposure to the US generics market would be the least affected by potential tariffs.

These companies have diversified portfolios and lower reliance on the US

generics market, making them Citi's preferred picks in the Indian pharmaceutical sector.

The report highlighted that in case of tariffs, there are factors like competition, industry fragmentation, and the influence of buying consortiums that might prevent the full pass-through of the tariff to US buyers.

Additionally, products facing competition from US manufacturers or those from non-tariff countries may not see any pass-through at all.

Despite these discussions, Citi believes that the probability of tariffs being imposed on Indian generics is low.

The firm pointed out that the US relies heavily on Indian generics due to the limited manufacturing of generics within the US itself.

Imposing tariffs could lead to drug shortages in the US if Indian suppliers were to exit the market. Citi's report suggests that while the imposition of tariffs remains unlikely, the impact on Indian pharmaceutical companies would depend on their exposure to the US generics market.

Meanwhile, US President Donald Trump has also announced a 25 per cent tariff on auto imports into the US, to be effective from April 3.

Summer Nutrition Tips: Beat the Heat with Smart Eating

As the summer sun beats down, it's essential to prioritize your nutrition to stay cool, energized, and healthy. While drinking plenty of water and eating fruits are common advice, there are deeper nutritional secrets that can help you thrive during the hottest months. In this article, we'll delve into expert tips, providing you with a comprehensive guide to staying cool and refreshed this summer.

Eat Like the Sun's Schedule

Eating according to the sun's schedule can help you maintain your energy levels. Have heavier meals in the cooler hours, early morning or late evening, and keep lunches light to avoid midday sluggishness. This ensures your body isn't overworked when temperatures are at their peak.

Hydration Beyond Just Water

Although water is a necessity, not all fluids are

equal. Herbal teas such as peppermint, hibiscus, and lemongrass are natural cooling agents rich in antioxidants. Hibiscus tea, however, is particularly effective at bringing down body temperature and aiding blood pressure management. Moreover, supplementing lost fluids with coconut water, lemon water, and homemade buttermilk is a natural way to restore electrolytes.

Select Lighter Proteins and Cooling Foods

Heavy meat foods such as beef and pork produce metabolic heat in the process of digestion and leave you feeling lethargic. To avoid this, prefer light, cooling proteins such as yoghurt, lentils, and fish, which require low digestive effort. Summer is also a good time to stock up on seasonal fruits, such as watermelon, muskmelon, and oranges, which give the body essential vitamins and antioxidants while also keeping it hydrated.

Leafy greens, cucumbers, and tomatoes must also be daily fare, as they contain minerals that help digestion.

The Power of Dairy and Probiotics

Probiotics and milk can make your gut healthy and your body cooler. Curd, buttermilk, and yogurt not just aid digestion, but they provide a natural coolness to the body too. Adding probiotics to your diet during the summer will boost immunity levels and help check common stomach woes that crop up during the warmer months.

Do Not Eat Ice-Cold Foods with Meals

Downing cold drinks with meals slows down digestion. Cold drinks make the fats harden in your stomach, slowing down digestion. Instead, drink room-temperature water or herbal teas to help digestion and nutrient absorption.

Reduce Caffeine and

Sugary Drinks

Though cold sodas and iced coffees can taste refreshing, they dehydrate you. Caffeinated and sugary drinks rob your body of necessary fluids. Instead, drink herbal teas and infused water to cool down without the side effects of artificial drinks.

Cooling Herbs and Spices

Mint and fennel seeds are nature's refrigerants. Incorporate mint into salads and beverages for an immediate cooling effect, while fennel seeds digest and freshen breath if chewed after meals.

The Takeaway: Stay Cool, Eat Smart

Mindful eating can be your secret shield against the summer heat. Prioritize hydrating foods, choose light meals, and pay attention to your fluid balance. By heeding these expert-supported nutrition suggestions, you will be able to remain energized, cool, and healthy all summer.

Reduce your bad cholesterol levels to keep Alzheimer's, dementia at bay

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI

Lowering bad blood cholesterol may not only be good for your heart but is also crucial to prevent Alzheimer's as well as dementia, according to a study.

The study, published online in the Journal of Neurology Neurosurgery and Psychiatry, revealed that low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C), also known as bad cholesterol, below 1.8 mmol/L was associated with a 26 per cent reduction in the risk of all-cause dementia.

It also led to a 28 per cent reduction in the risk of Alzheimer's disease-related dementia, compared with LDL-C levels above 3.4 millimoles per litre (mmol/L).

Further, researchers from the Hallym University College of Medicine in South Korea explained that statins conveyed an additional protective



effect for people with low LDL-C, specifically those with blood levels less than 1.8 mmol/L.

Among people with LDL-C levels below 1.8 mmol/L, statin use was associated with a 13 per cent reduction in all-cause dementia risk and a 12 per cent decrease in risk of Alzheimer's disease-related dementia compared with non-users.

"Low LDL-C levels (less

than 1.8 mmol/L) are significantly associated with a reduced risk of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease-related dementia, with statin therapy providing additional protective effects," the team said. "These findings underscore the crucial role of managing LDL-C in lowering dementia risk," they added.

For the study, the team identified 192,213

people with LDL-C levels less than 1.8 mmol/L and 379,006 patients with LDL-C levels more than 3.4 mmol/L and matched individuals in each group into 108,980 matched pairs.

The protective effect against cognitive decline lessened at lower LDL-C levels and eventually disappeared entirely.

At LDL-C levels below 1.4 mmol/L, there was an 18 per cent risk reduction for both all-cause dementia and Alzheimer's disease-related dementia compared with LDL-C levels above 3.4 mmol/L, and when LDL-C levels fell below 0.8 mmol/L the risk reductions disappeared.

"This is an observational study, and as such, no firm conclusions can be drawn about cause and effect," said the researchers, while acknowledging limitations such as the focus on baseline LDL-C levels when lipid profiles could change over time.

7 Health Benefits of Watermelon in Summer

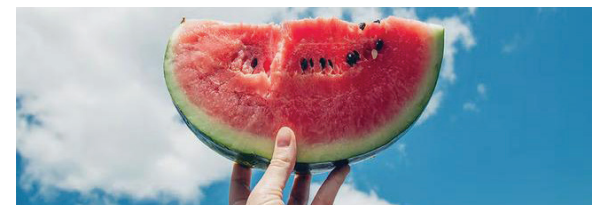
While the summer sun blazes brightly, our bodies seek to quench our thirst and beat the heat by eating cool, hydrating foods. Watermelon, being sweet and juicy in flavor, is the ideal fruit that quenches our thirst while giving us multiple health benefits. In this article, we are going to examine the benefits of watermelon, discuss its nutrition, and also tell you how to add it to your diet.

1. Hydration and Refreshment

Watermelon's water content of approximately 92% makes it a great drink to stay hydrated during the warm summer months. Proper hydration is necessary to help maintain bodily processes, control body temperature, and aid in physical performance.

2. Immune System Boost

Watermelon is high in vitamin C, which aids in boosting the immune system as well as wards off diseases. Vitamin C is also important for the production of white blood cells,



which kill off infections.

3. Promotes Heart Health

Watermelon also includes an amino acid known as citrulline, which can increase blood flow and reduce blood pressure. Citrulline is also capable of relaxing blood vessels so that it becomes simpler for the heart to pump blood throughout the body.

4. Facilitates Digestion

Watermelon's fiber and high water content ensure that constipation is avoided and regular bowel movements are encouraged. Adding watermelon to your meals can guarantee that your digestive system runs smoothly, particularly during the summer season.

5. Aids in Weight Loss

Watermelon is water-dense and contains few calories, which is a satiat-

ing and healthy food that can effectively assist with the efforts of losing weight. Watermelon is effective in curbing hunger and prolonging the feelings of fullness to avoid eating more.

6. Helps Fight Inflammation

Watermelon's antioxidants and anti-inflammatory compounds help to reduce inflammation and alleviate symptoms of conditions such as arthritis. Watermelon's anti-inflammatory properties also help to protect against chronic diseases such as heart disease and cancer.

7. Promotes Healthy Skin

Watermelon's antioxidants and vitamin C protect the skin from damaging UV rays and encourage healthy skin. Watermelon's water content also keeps the skin hydrated and firm, minimizing fine lines and wrinkles.

How to Enjoy Watermelon

Raw and fresh: Snack on watermelon slices or chunks.

Smoothies and juices: Blend watermelon with your favorite vegetables and fruits for a healthy and satisfying smoothie.

Salads and salsas: Incorporate diced watermelon into salads, salsas, and other foods for a splash of nutrition and flavor.

Grilled and roasted: Grill or roast slices of watermelon for a sweet, caramelized snack.

Watermelon water: Steep watermelon slices in water to make a refreshing, hydrating drink.

In summary, watermelon is a healthy and refreshing fruit that provides many health benefits and benefits. Its high water content, vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants make it a great addition to a healthy diet. Whether you like it fresh, blended, or grilled, watermelon is a tasty and healthy way to beat the heat and maintain overall well-being.

JMC - Where are our digital door plates: Pt Chaman Lal Sharma

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 6

It is noted and expressed with concern that 72 houses of Ward No 2, Bhour Camp (Jammu) counting from Sh Jagdish Kumar's house to Smt Gulshan Sharma's house are left without Digital Door Plates on the doors of these house as these houses are part and parcel of Ward 73 of Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC). It is a very shameful and heinous act on part of JMC that doors on the one side of the street are pasted with digital door plates and doors on the opposite side left without the same without any valid reason. Nevertheless affected people informed



about the reasons for not pasting the digital door plates on their doors. Since its inception JMC never bothers for these

fated houses left without digital registration. People raised the issue before the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and officials / authorities in JMC and Smart City but no any kind of action taken in this regard till date. People facing hardship in their day to day revenue record working with Tehsil Jammu South. People doubt and believed that knowingly conspiracy and fraudulent has been done with them for the same. There is no answer for the social crime and all officials are mum on the episode. Commissioner JMC is requested through the medium of your esteemed newspaper to do the needful at the earliest as a welfare measure to the affected people.

Two days Virat Santmat Satsang concludes at Miran Sahib

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 6

Two days grand spiritual event, "Virat Santmat Samagam", organized by Engineer Ravindra Kumar Sharma at Miran Sahib Sun City Farm from April 5-6, 2025 today concluded. The event featured esteemed spiritual leader, Satguru Swami Vyasa Nand Ji Maharaj who delivered enlightening discourses and shared profound spiritual insights with the gathered devotees. The event concluded with a grand langar (community kitchen) and Guru Diksha, leaving a lasting impact on the spiritual community. Swami Vyasanand Ji Maharaj's ability to connect with his audience and convey complex spiritual concepts in an accessible way has earned him a devoted following. His satsangs offer a unique opportunity for spiritual growth, self-reflection, and community building.

Swami Vyasa Nand Ji Maharaj speaking on the significance of having a Guru in life said that True Guru navigates you through the troubled times; leads you to successful conclusions; guides you to lead a purposeful life; helps you to meditate and concentrate; makes you feel the urge to be in the company



of God. A person without a Guru is considered as an orphan. Swami Ji said in the presence of a Satguru; Knowledge flourishes [Gyanaraksha]; Sorrow diminishes [Dukhakhshaya]; Joy wells up without any reason [Sukhaavirbhava]; Abundance dawns [Samridhi]; all talents manifest [Sarvasamvardhan]. The Guru is the one who guides his disciple to become 'jivanmukta', the liberated soul able to achieve salvation in his lifetime, added Swami Ji.

Swami Ji stressed that acts of charity, kindness and generosity can have a profound impact on individuals and communities. By engaging in these practices, we can cultivate a sense of compassion and empathy within ourselves and inspire others to do the same. This can lead to a ripple effect of kindness and create a more supportive and caring environment. Swami Ji Maharaj captivated the audience

with his engaging talks, sharing ancient wisdom and spiritual knowledge. Swami Ji observed that pursuit of material possessions can indeed lead to an insatiable desire for more, often leaving one feeling unfulfilled. In contrast, cultivating a deeper connection with the divine through worship and spiritual practices can bring a sense of true happiness and satisfaction. This perspective highlights the importance of prioritizing spiritual growth and inner fulfillment over external possessions, added Swami Ji. Swami Vyasanand Ji Maharaj's Virat Satsang emphasized the importance of satsang (spiritual gatherings) and the role of sants (spiritual leaders) in one's life. He said Satsang provides a platform for spiritual growth, self-reflection, and introspection and fosters a sense of community and belonging among like-minded individuals. Satsang offers

guidance and inspiration from spiritual leaders and peers. Swami Ji emphasized importance of showing respect and reverence to sants and spiritual leaders encouraged individuals to approach spiritual growth with humility and an open mind. He guided individuals toward personal transformation and spiritual growth through his teachings. By participating in satsang, individuals can experience a deeper sense of purpose, peace and fulfillment in their lives, added Swami Ji.

Earlier Captain (Retd.) Kundan Lal Sharma read out a welcome address on behalf of the people of Jammu, honoring Swami Ji Maharaj's presence. Organizer Engineer Ravindra Kumar Sharma along with Amar Nath Raina, Dr Padam Dev Raina and Captain (Retd.) Kundan Lal Sharma, presented a tribute to Swami Ji Maharaj on behalf of the people of Jammu.

Ego Is the True Barrier Between Soul and God: Sadguru Madhuparamhans Ji

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 6

Today, the Sadguru of Sahib Bandagi, Shri Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj, while delighting the congregation with the nectar of his parvachan in Akhnoor, said that it is easy to sacrifice a son, a woman etc. but it is difficult to sacrifice ego.

If you study the words of Goswami Ji, then Sahib will emerge from within.

What you think that I am, is an illusion. This is a deception, this is a pretense. If there is any obstacle between you and God, then it is I. This is called Aapa or Hasti. That is why Sahib is saying that erase your existence if you want to move forward in the path of God.

If you look at wheat, look at gram, you will see a germination. Like, strong people are recruited in the army. No one makes them strong by feeding them.



The British were very clever. They used to first select and then take out. They look for good grains of high breed, then chemicalize them. Then they do not get infested with worms. In this way the Guru makes you such that Maya cannot take hold. Your I is the barrier between you and God. The soul was neither born nor will it die. Then I eat, I sleep, who is this? The explanation of the soul is the same in all religions. The soul is beyond hunger and thirst. Then who is

eating? The soul does not remain awake or sleep. Then who is sleeping? The soul never falls ill. Then who is falling ill? Everyone is doing whatever the mind wants. Sahib is saying very clearly that everyone is a devotee of the mind. The whole world is doing I. The mind has four forms. Desiring is done by the mind. Intellect is also a form of the mind. Chitta is also a form of the mind. Think about what you are remembering, whatever you remember that this is

my so-and-so, here is my house. All this is the mind. Ego is the fourth form of the mind. All the work that you are doing is being done by I. The commander of I is the mind. You see, no one is going after this. Everyone is saying that fulfill our desires. A Maai came for the first time, she told me to fulfill her wishes. I stopped her and asked her to say it again, what she said. She repeated it. I said you have come to the wrong place. Wishes are not fulfilled here, they are crushed.

Some people say that hope is life. These hopes do not end. Sahib is saying that if desire ends then understand that worries are gone. The emperor is the one who has no desire. Sahib's words are not rhyming.

You have no enemy except your mind. If there is any wall between you and God then it is the mind.

Bhagawaan Gopinathji Trust Holds Eight-Day Spiritual Event During Navratras



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 6

To inculcate moral and spiritual values among the masses, Bhagawaan Gopinathji Trust organized eight-day long spiritual activity at the Bhagawaan Gopinathji Ashram, Udaiwala, Bohri, Jammu during auspicious 'Navratras.' Hundreds of devotees thronged the Ashram during these days and it was gratifying to watch the devotees participating in the spiritual activities in a spirit of true devotion and humility. The Havan started on 30th of March, 2025 and Purn Ahuti was offered on the 6th of April, 2025 at 1 p.m. marking the end of the

festival days. A huge gathering of devotees took part in recitation of about crores of mantras during these auspicious days for propitiating the Blessings of Mother Goddess. Devotees prayed to Bhagawaanji for the well being of mankind.

Prasad was distributed among the devotees in the lush green lawn of Bhagawaanji's Vatika.

It is pertinent to mention that such spiritual activities are held on a regular basis by the Trust at its various ashrams / centres spread across the country to inculcate spiritual and moral values in the young and old to preserve our rich culture and heritage.

Jammu Dalits burn the effigies of Gurpatwant Singh Pannu's statement against Dr Ambedkar



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 6

Dalits of Jammu and Kashmir burned an effigy of Gurpatwant Singh Pannu, who is an offender, condemning his alleged slanderous remarks about Bharat Ratna Baba Sahib Dr. Ambedkar. The remarks apparently hurt the sentiments of the Dalit community, sparking strong protests.

DOMA-Confederation President R.K. Kalsotra urged the Central Government to extradite Pannu to India and prosecute him under the SC/ST Atrocities Act. He said the Dalit community has a strong bond with the Indian Constitution, drafted by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. Pannu's alleged remarks are seen as an attack on the community's

values and heritage. Dr. Ambedkar, fondly called Baba Saheb, was a visionary politician and social reformer who campaigned against social discrimination against Dalits.

Kalsotra further said the Dalits of India consider Sikh community as a separate community and respect the right of Sikhs to wear Kirpan in the Constitution drafted by Baba Saheb Dr. Ambedkar

The DOMA Confederation's protest highlights the growing tensions between different communities in India. The Central Government's response to Pannu's extradition and prosecution will likely have significant implications for inter-community relations and the country's commitment to upholding the principles of the Indian Constitution.

Don't undermine people's mandate, honour your commitment of Statehood to J&K: Rattan Lal Gupta to Amit Shah

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 6

As Union Home Minister Amit Shah embarks on his three-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir, Advocate Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC), has issued a strong statement urging the Centre not to undermine the democratic mandate and aspirations of the people. He questioned the prolonged delay in the restoration of statehood without reasons, especially when the Government itself continues to claim that normalcy has been restored in the region.

In a press statement issued here today, the senior NC leader questioned the intent behind the delay in fulfilling the promise made repeatedly by the Prime Minister and Union Home Minister

on multiple occasions. "If assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir were conducted nearly five months ago in a peaceful and participative manner, then what more does the Centre need as a benchmark of normalcy?" he asked. The senior NC leader said that denying statehood to a region that has already demonstrated its commitment to peace and democratic values is an affront to the people's mandate. "Amit Shah must remember the repeated assurances given on the floor of Parliament and at public forums about the restoration of statehood. It is time to walk the talk," he stated. The Provincial President emphasized that the absence of complete statehood has created a dual power structure that is both confusing and counterproductive. "This arrangement has led to



administrative chaos and undermined the authority of the democratically elected government, resulting in policy paralysis and developmental stagnation," he said.

"The people of Jammu and Kashmir have shown immense courage and resilience by reposing their trust in democratic institutions in the recently held Assembly elections. They deserve a full-fledged state with an accountable government, not a fragmented setup dictated by bureaucratic control from the Centre," he remarked.

Rattan Lal Gupta asserted that the sentiments of

the people of J&K must no longer be ignored. "The people have already participated in the democratic process. Now it's the Centre's turn to honour its commitment to the restoration of statehood. Any further delay would only erode trust in institutions and the democratic fabric of the country, and would create obstacles to the peace, prosperity, and development of the people of Jammu and Kashmir," he cautioned. The senior NC leader urged the Home Minister to use this visit as an opportunity to announce a clear and time-bound roadmap for the restoration of full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir.

"Let this visit not be another ceremonial tour. Let it mark a turning point in the Centre's policy to concrete actions," he added.

the people of J&K must no longer be ignored. "The people have already participated in the democratic process. Now it's the Centre's turn to honour its commitment to the restoration of statehood. Any further delay would only erode trust in institutions and the democratic fabric of the country, and would create obstacles to the peace, prosperity, and development of the people of Jammu and Kashmir," he cautioned. The senior NC leader urged the Home Minister to use this visit as an opportunity to announce a clear and time-bound roadmap for the restoration of full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir.

Shat Chandi Yagya concludes with Divine Blessings at Vaishno Devi Shrine

JI NEWS SERVICE
KATRA, APRIL 6

The sacred 9-day-long Shat Chandi Maha Yagya, organized by the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB), concluded with immense reverence and devotion on Mahanavami. Over 3.5 lakh devotees from across India and abroad visited the shrine during the Chaitra Navratra to seek the blessings of the revered Mata Vaishno Devi Ji.

Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board; Vikas Anand, SDM Bhawan; other officers and staff of the Shrine Board, besides pilgrims participated in Purnahuti and other religious ceremonies performed amidst Vedic mantras on the occasion. This spiritual occasion was further sanctified by a group of Pandits led by Padma Shri



Prof Vishwamurti Shastri, who conducted the Maha Yagya.

The Shrine Board, under the directions and guidance of Hon'ble Chairman, SMVDSB (Lt. Governor, JK-UT), introduced several initiatives to make the Navratra more memorable. Key additions included smart lockers, free public call booths and complimentary slots for divyang devotees to participate in Garbjoon and Atka Arti at Adhkuwari and Bhawan. Dedicated quotas for

helicopter bookings and complimentary battery car services were also provided for divyang pilgrims. Additionally, resting and holding areas were set up at Banganga and Adhkuwari and the dining area at Indraprastha Bhojanalaya was expanded. The Langar facility was extended to Shubhra Bhawan at Banganga, with all Shrine Langars offering fast-related food options for visiting devotees observing fasts during the Navratra.

The Shrine Board made

elaborate arrangements to enhance the pilgrimage experience including decorative flowers at Bhawan, Atka and surrounding areas. Round-the-clock water and power supply, sanitation, and sanitization measures were ensured along the tracks and in the Bhawan area. The Bhawan area and other sectors along the track were illuminated with attractive facade lighting and facilities like accommodation, battery-operated vehicles, passenger ropeway and helicopter services operated smoothly. Additionally, pilgrims benefited from free food at various locations, including Tarakote Marg, Prasad Kendra at Sanjichhat, Langar Sewa at Bhairon, Adhkuwari, Banganga and Railway Station, Katra, ensuring a seamless and spiritual experience for devotees.

MLA Arvind inaugurates Free Artificial Limbs & Medical OPD Camp in Jammu

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 6

Arvind Gupta, senior BJP leader and MLA Jammu West, today inaugurated a Free Artificial Limbs and Medical OPD Camp at Fattu Chogan, Kali Janji, Jammu, reaffirming his commitment to inclusive and compassionate health-care.

The camp was organized by Shri Atam Vallabh Jain Clinic, marking the 449th consecutive monthly limb camp conducted by the organization—a testament to its unwavering dedication to social service and community welfare.

The event witnessed the distribution of 35 artificial limbs (Jaipur Foot), 18 calipers, 2 tricycles, and 4 hearing aids to underprivileged and differently-abled individuals. In the medical OPD section, a total of 224 patients were examined by expert doctors, with free laboratory tests and essential medicines provided on the spot.

Narinder Jain, Vice-President of BJP Minor-



ity Morcha (J&K UT), also accompanied MLA Arvind Gupta during the camp.

In his address, Arvind Gupta commended the relentless efforts of Shri Atam Vallabh Jain Clinic in serving humanity. He praised the team for their seamless execution of the camp and their long-standing commitment to the upliftment of the poor and marginalized.

He further said, "This initiative reflects the true spirit of 'Seva' (service) that our society must uphold. Such efforts bring dignity and mobility to those in need, and I feel

honored to be a part of this noble cause."

Pritul Jain, General Secretary of the Society, briefed the gathering about the organization's enduring legacy of humanitarian work.

Pradeep Jain, Chairman of the Society, expressed heartfelt gratitude to Arvind Gupta for his valuable presence and continuous encouragement.

Prominent dignitaries who graced the occasion included Shri Kimti Jain, Davinder Jain, Praveen Seth, Deepak Jain, Vikas Jain, Rishek Jain, and Shailesh Jain.

Shiv Beragi Elected President of Press Club Akhnoor

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 6

The General House Meeting of the Press Club Akhnoor was convened on Sunday at the Tourism Reception Centre, Akhnoor. During the meeting, the new executive body of the club was unanimously elected. Shiv Beragi was chosen as the President of the Press Club Akhnoor. Accompanying him in the new team are Rabia Khajuria as Senior Vice President, Monu Parashar as Vice President, Sunil Singh Bhatu as General Secretary, and Mohit Sharma, Vikrant Bral, Vinod Sharma, and Ashwini Bhardwaj as Secretaries. Ajeet Singh Jamwal has been appointed as the Cashier.

The meeting was presided over by the founding president of the club, Kunwar Shakti Singh, who shared details of various programs organized during his tenure and extended best wishes to the newly appointed team. In his address, he emphasized the importance of understanding media responsibilities and



encouraged members to keep learning and evolving in their field.

Outgoing General Secretary Shamsher Singh welcomed all members and urged them to adhere to the club's principles while striving to take it to new heights. He expressed confidence that the new team would work with dedication under the guidance of senior journalists to fulfill the club's objectives.

A key decision made during the meeting was the introduction of a pre-planned annual calendar for events and activities to ensure a structured and systematic execution throughout the year.

In his first address as President, Shiv Beragi expressed heartfelt gratitude to all members for

their trust and support. He affirmed his commitment to fulfilling the responsibilities entrusted to him with sincerity and integrity. He further stated that every effort would be made to establish the Press Club as a vibrant and proactive platform for journalistic engagement.

The proceedings of the General House were efficiently conducted by Avinash Bassan. The meeting also witnessed the presence of notable members including Atul Sudan, Suresh Sharma, Sunny Sharma, Roshan Sharma, Raj Sangotra, Lovely Singh, Manjeet Singh, Bobby, Vinay, Kulbhushan Singh, Mohit Mehra, Vishal Gadgotra, Rakesh Kumar, Monu Verma, and Shambhu Sharma, Rajan Sharma.

JPDCL Initiates Region-Wide Rollout of Prepaid Smart Metering



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 5

In a major stride towards modernizing the power distribution network and enhancing consumer convenience, the Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDCCL) has commenced the rollout of Prepaid Smart Metering across the Jammu region. This development was shared during a comprehensive review meeting chaired by Yasin M. Choudhary, IAS, Managing Director, JPDCCL, wherein the progress of Smart Metering under various schemes and its impact on consumers were thoroughly assessed.

It was highlighted during the meeting that over 3.15 lakh consumers equipped with Smart Meters under PMDP Phase-I and II in Jammu, Samba, and Udhampur districts are already benefiting from this transformative shift. The initiative, being implemented in phases under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), aims to eventually cover all ten districts of the Jammu province.

As of now, approximately 3 lakh Smart Meters have been successfully converted to prepaid mode, marking a significant milestone in JPDCCL's journey towards a more transparent, efficient, and consumer-centric power distribution ecosystem.

The Prepaid Smart Metering model offers consumers greater control over their electricity usage. With a convenient pay-as-you-use system, users can recharge their accounts in advance, monitor real-time consumption via mobile apps or web portals, and receive timely low-balance alerts—enabling proactive management and helping avoid disconnections. This not only enhances user convenience but also promotes energy conservation and responsible consumption. To complement the initiative, JPDCCL has also launched its official mobile application, Bill Suvidha, available on both Android and iOS platforms. The app enables consumers to view and pay bills, track consumption history, and receive important updates—all from the comfort of their homes.

Dharmarth Trust celebrates Ram Navmi with religious fervour across j&k

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APRIL 6

The J&K Dharmarth Trust today celebrated the auspicious festival of Ram Navmi with immense religious fervour and devotion at all Ram temples under its management across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The main celebration was held at the historic Shree Raghunathji Temple in Jammu, where a sacred Havan was performed amidst chanting of Vedic mantras. The religious ceremony witnessed the participation of Ranvijay Singh, Trustee, Kunwarani Dr. Ritu Singh along with Dr. P.S. Pathania, President, and Ashok Kumar Sharma,



Secretary of the Trust. The Puran Aahutis were offered with full devotion, followed by a Vishesh Aarti in the sanctum sanctorum of the revered temple.

A massive gathering of devotees thronged the temple premises from

early morning, forming long queues to participate in the special Pooja and other spiritual rituals to mark the birth anniversary of Lord Ram.

Adding to the spiritual grandeur, Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary of J&K, accompanied by his

wife, also paid obeisance at Shree Raghunathji Temple on this pious occasion.

Extending his greetings on Ram Navmi, Ranvijay Singh expressed hope that this sacred festival would usher in peace, prosperity, and harmony across Jammu and Kashmir. He said, "Festivals like Ram Navmi are an integral part of our glorious cultural heritage. They not only strengthen the bonds of communal harmony but also reinforce our commitment to the values of peace and brotherhood."

Vikramaditya Singh, Trustee of J&K Dharmarth Trust, in his message, also extended his heartfelt greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir

on the auspicious occasion of Ram Navmi. He emphasized that the life and teachings of Lord Ram continue to inspire generations towards righteousness, compassion, and truth. "Ram Navmi reminds us of the timeless values of Dharma and service to humanity. May this sacred festival bring harmony, strength, and spiritual awakening to all," he said.

Later in the evening, a soulful Sunderkand Path was organized in the temple complex, drawing a large number of devotees. The event concluded with the distribution of Parsad among the attendees, spreading the message of divine blessings and unity.

Army jawan dies due to accidental fire in Kishtwar

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 6

An army jawan died on Sunday morning in an accidental fire in Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir.

Police sources said that a jawan hailing from Rajasthan was found in a pool of blood with a critical bullet injury and was immediately shifted to the nearby hospital, but was declared as brought dead.

"Accidental fire was initially ascertained to be the cause of death," they said, adding that a case has been registered and an investigation started.

Kashmir's Daughter Irfana Zargar Honoured with JK Gaurav Ekta Sammaan Award



JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APRIL 6:

Irfana Zargar, fondly known as the Padwoman of Kashmir, has been conferred with the prestigious JK Gaurav Ekta Sammaan Award today in recognition of her relentless service towards women's health, menstrual hygiene awareness, and community empowerment in Jammu and Kashmir.

A fearless changemaker and a devoted daughter, Irfana began her journey in 2014, dedicating her mission to the memory of her late father. Through her initiative Eva Safety Door, she has been distributing sanitary pads free of cost, especially to underprivileged and orphaned girls, breaking taboos and igniting conversations around menstrual dignity

in the most remote areas of the valley.

Her work is not just a service it is a movement rooted in empathy, resilience, and purpose. Traveling by local buses, often facing challenges, she continues to reach out to the unheard voices, proving that one woman can indeed be a revolution.

Upon receiving the award, Irfana said:

"This award is not just mine. It belongs to my father, whose values live through my actions, and to every girl who dares to dream beyond boundaries. I want to be the voice for the voiceless, and the hope for the hopeless.

Her story is a shining example of how courage and compassion can transform grief into a legacy and silence into a voice that echoes change.

Grand Navratri Celebrations held at Shri Lakshmi Narayan Mandir with devotional fervour

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 6

The festival of Navratri, i.e., Nine nights dedicated to the worship of Goddess Durga, is celebrated by Hindus across the world. During this auspicious period, devotees offer special prayers both in the morning and evening to pay obeisance to the Goddess.

Since its inception, the Management of Shri Lakshmi Narayan Mandir, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, has been celebrating Navratri every year with great devotion and enthusiasm. This year, too, following Beeja Roopan on the first Navratra, the Trust organized a Ram Katha in Dogri, delivered by Pt. Satpal Raina Ji, followed by a Ladies' Satsang, where devotional Durga Bhajans were recited. A large number of Sanatan Dharma devotees participated in these events.



A special highlight this year was the Maha Aarti of Mata Vaishno Devi Ji, conducted in the style of the renowned Haridwar Maha Aarti. This attracted hundreds of devotees, including Trustees, special invitees, learned Pandits, and Pujaris. Parshad was distributed among devotees during all the days of the celebrations.

The entire temple complex

was beautifully illuminated, and the arrangements made by the Management Trust received widespread appreciation. On Ashtami, MLA Vikram Randhawa along with other dignitaries, graced the occasion with their presence.

As per tradition, a special Hawan Yagya was organized today, attended by a large number of devotees,

and was followed by the Kanjak Pujan ceremony.

Th. Gulchain Singh Charak, Former Minister and President of the Trust, S.C Rekhi, General Secretary and other members of the Trust expressed their heartfelt gratitude to all participants and devotees for maintaining the sanctity and decorum throughout the Navratri celebrations.

Shakti Udgosh launches free coaching for IKPSI aspirants



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, APR 6

In its ongoing mission to empower youth, especially women, Shakti Udgosh, under the leadership of founder Preeti Choudhary, is launching a free coaching program for aspiring candidates (both girls and boys) preparing for the post of IKPSI. The initiative is being organized with the support of Gandhi Bhawan.

The coaching batch is scheduled to commence in the first week of April, with a course duration of 45 days. The program will adopt a result-oriented approach, featuring personalized sessions, regular mock tests, and a special focus on reasoning and other essential subjects. Participants who maintain

full attendance throughout the course will be suitably rewarded for their dedication and discipline.

Over the years, Shakti Udgosh has made commendable strides in women empowerment. The organization has successfully trained approximately 300 females, with 15 candidates having been selected in prestigious roles within the Defence, Police, and allied forces.

Interested candidates can reach out and register through Shakti Udgosh's official social media handles. Registration is open now and completely free of cost.

This initiative reflects Shakti Udgosh's unwavering commitment to uplift and support the aspirations of young individuals in Bast and beyond.

Despite enhanced allocation for TN, some 'crying' for more funds : PM's veiled reference to DMK

AGENCIES
RAMESWARAM, APR 6 (UND)

In a veiled reference to ruling DMK's oft-repeated charge that the BJP-led Government at the Centre has neglected Tamil Nadu and has not allocated enough funds, Prime Minister Narendra Modi the Centre has provided increased allocation for the State over the last 10 years but still some people are 'crying' for more funds.

Underlining Tamil Nadu's critical role in India's economic development, Mr Modi said the central government has tripled its financial allocation to various infra developmental projects to the state over the past decade and railway funding has increased seven-fold in the last ten years.

"Despite increased allocation for TN some 'cry



over funds", he said, without naming the DMK.

"They can only cry", he added.

Speaking after inaugurating the new iconic Pamban Rail Bridge and launching new road and rail projects to the tune of Rs 8,300 crore, Mr Modi said the Centre was concerned about infrastructure development in Tamil Nadu and pointed out that more funds have been allotted to Tamil Nadu during the last ten

years by the BJP-led government when compared to the allocation made by the previous governments.

"Tamil Nadu plays a significant role in India's journey toward becoming a developed nation", the Prime Minister said, adding, as Tamil Nadu's potential grows, India's growth will accelerate further.

Reiterating that over the past decade, the central government has allocated three times more funds

for Tamil Nadu's development compared to the period before 2014, he said this increased funding has greatly contributed to Tamil Nadu's economic and industrial growth.

Underlining that infrastructure development in Tamil Nadu is a priority for the Union Government, Mr Modi said over the past decade, Tamil Nadu's railway budget has increased more than seven-fold.

Before 2014, rail projects in Tamil Nadu received only Rs 900 crore annually, while this year, the railway budget for Tamil Nadu exceeded Rs 6,000 crore.

He also listed out various schemes under which the State has benefitted and pointed out the significant progress made in the development of rural roads and highways over the last ten years.

PM should give assurance that no seat reduction under delimitation: Stalin

AGENCIES
CHENNAI, APR 6 (UND)

Accusing the BJP-led government at the Centre of being hellbent on reducing the strength of Tamil Nadu in the name of delimitation, Chief Minister and DMK President M K Stalin on Sunday demanded that Prime Minister Narendra Modi should allay the fears and promise that no Parliamentary seats would be reduced under the exercise.

Mr Modi should allay the genuine fears of the people on the proposed delimitation exercise and make a promise from this TN soil that there would be no seat reduction in the State and also in Southern States, which has effectively implemented population control measures, he said, after launching various welfare measures and inaugurating new government hospitals at Udhagamandalam in the Nilgiris district.

He also demanded that the Prime Minister should also bring in Amendments in Parliament in this regard.

"It is not just about seats...it is our powers



Mr. Stalin the Prime Minister should make a promise to the people of Tamil Nadu while he was on "Tamil soil" and Southern states that they would not be punished by the delimitation exercise.

On NEET exemption, he blamed AIADMK's Edappadi K Palaniswami and ousted leader O Panneerselvam for bringing NEET into Tamil Nadu which was not allowed in the state during the tenure of former CMs M Karunanidhi and Ms Jayalalithaa. Stating that NEET entered Tamil Nadu after Ms Jayalalithaa's death, Mr Stalin dared Mr Palaniswami to tell BJP that his party would have an alliance with it (for the 2026 Assembly polls) only if TN was exempted from NEET purview.

During the event, Mr. Stalin inaugurated 1,703 completed government projects amounting to Rs 494.51 crores in Ooty, including the newly constructed Udhagamandalam Government Medical College and Hospital and laid the foundation stone for 56 new projects in the Nilgiris to the tune of Rs 130.35 crores.

and rights", Mr Stalin, who skipped the event attended by the Prime Minister in Rameswaram to inaugurate the new Pamban Bridge, said.

Accusing the Centre to conspiring to reduce the Parliamentary representation in the name of delimitation based on population which would severely affect several states including Tamil Nadu, the Chief Minister said realising this he had convened an all party meeting and decided to form a Joint Action Committee to take forward the struggle.

He said he had presided over the first JAC meeting in Chennai by inviting several states which were likely to be hit by the delimitation and adopted resolutions demanding freezing of delimitation

for the next 25 years.

Mr Stalin said he had also written to Mr Modi in this regard and also sought an appointment with him to meet him along with a delegation of MPs from TN to convey the apprehensions of the people of the State.

Exuding confidence that Mr Modi would soon give an appointment for the meeting, the Chief Minister, while clarifying that he had already informed him about his inability to attend the Rameswaram event in view of his visit to the Nilgiris district. Citing Mr Modi's visit, Mr Stalin urged him to allay the genuine fears of the people and give a firm assurance by standing in TN soil and also bringing in necessary Constitutional Amendments in this regard.

Indian Navy renders critical medical help to Pakistani crew in Central Arabian Sea

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, APR 6 (UND)

Indian Navy's stealth frigate INS Trikand, operating in the Central Arabian Sea, provided urgent critical medical assistance to a Pakistani crew of a fishing vessel operating around 350 nautical miles east of the Oman coast.

The crew had suffered severe injuries, involving multiple fractures and blood loss, an Indian Navy statement said on Sunday.

On Friday morning, INS Trikand, intercepted a distress call from an Iranian dhow Al Omeedi. Upon further investigation, it was revealed that a crew member of the dhow had sustained severe injuries to his fingers while working on the engine and was



in critical condition and that he had been transferred to another dhow named FV Abdul Rehman Hanzia, which was en route to Iran.

INS Trikand immediately altered her course to provide medical assistance to the injured crew member.

The crew of FV Abdul Rehman Hanzia consisted of 11 Pakistanis (nine

Baloch and two Sindhi) and five Iranian personnel.

The injured individual, a Pakistani (Baloch) national, had suffered multiple fractures and severe hand injuries, resulting in heavy blood loss.

The Medical Officer of INS Trikand, along with a team of MARCOS (Marine Commandos) and the ship's boarding

team, boarded the FV to administer aid. After providing local anaesthesia, the ship's medical team performed suturing and splinting on the injured fingers. The surgical procedure which lasted for over three hours, was successfully completed, and bleeding was controlled in time, thereby preventing potential permanent loss of the injured fingers due to gangrene, the statement said.

Moreover, medical supplies, including antibiotics, were provided to the FV to ensure the crew's well-being until they reached Iran. The entire crew expressed their deep gratitude to the Indian Navy for the timely assistance in saving their crewmate's life.

BJP conspiratorial party, spreads hatred in society: Akhilesh

AGENCIES
LUCKNOW, APR 6 (UND)

Samajwadi Party (SP) President Akhilesh Yadav on Sunday said that the controversy in Sitapur over the removal of statues of great men like Mahatma Buddha and Babasaheb is pointing towards a big political conspiracy.

In a statement issued here, Akhilesh said, "Everyone knows who those are on whose orders the administration is making such attacks. The awareness of the oppressed and deprived society is emerging as a new consciousness, the life of these conspiracies is not very long now."

He said that the Bharati-



Farmers, youth, businessmen, women, all are suffering from the wrong policies of this government. The BJP government made false promises to farmers, youth, everyone," he said.

Akhilesh said that the income of farmers has not doubled. "The cost of farming has increased due to rising inflation. The BJP government has cheated the farmers. Sugar mills owe thousands of crores of rupees to farmers. Government purchase of wheat is not happening. Middlemen and big companies are looting farmers by buying their crops at very low prices. The government is in collusion with them," he alleged.

ya Janata Party (BJP) is conspiratorial. "BJP spreads hatred in the society. It spoils social harmony. BJP is against PDA. BJP has snatched every honour and reservation of PDA. BJP people are scared of the unity of PDA," he said.

The SP chief said, "A conspiracy is being hatched against PDA in

the BJP government. SP is ready to fight the opponents of Babasaheb along with PDA at every level. SP is fully committed to social harmony, constitution, and democracy."

He said that the BJP government has failed on every front. "Inflation, unemployment, and corruption are at their peak.

Cong stages black flag protest against PM's visit

AGENCIES
CHENNAI, APR 6 (UND)

The Congress party on Sunday staged black flag protests against Prime Minister Narendra Modi's to Tamil Nadu condemning the BJP-led Government for not releasing due share of funds to the state under various schemes.

In Chennai city, Tamil Nadu Congress Committee (TNCC) President and Congress Legislature Party leader K. Selvaperunthagai, Former Union Minister P. Chidambaram along with party cadres staged the black flag protest.

Similar protests were also held in other parts of the State.

The black flag protest was held alleging that



ever since the BJP government headed by Mr Modi assumed office it has been deceiving Tamil Nadu and Tamils through its anti-party policies.

He said the Centre was acting against the interests of Tamil Nadu by attempting to impose Hindi in the name of three language policy under NEP-2020, trying to reduce represent-

ation in Parliament under the proposed delimitation based on the current population, non-release of Disaster relief funds for state, which was battered by Cyclone and heavy rains.

Mr Selvaperunthagai also slammed the Union Government for not releasing funds under the SSA for the school education sector

and not taking adequate steps to exempt Tamil Nadu from the purview of NEET exams, which has claimed the lives of several young medical aspirants, adopting biased approach in allocation of funds for various projects despite getting large share of GST revenue from TN, exerting pressure using the Governor on duly and democratically elected governments in non-BJP ruled States, delay in releasing its share of funds for the Chennai Metro Rail Project Phase-2. He also had a dig at the Centre for not releasing Rs 4,034 crore wage dues for the poor under the 100-day MGNREGS scheme since it was named after Mahatma Gandhi, among other things.

A day after raids, CBI register 7 cases in TN illegal mining scam

AGENCIES
CHENNAI, APR 6 (UND)

A day after conducting raids in multiple locations in connection with the Rs 5,832 crore illegal mining scam in Tamil Nadu, CBI on Sunday registered seven cases in this connection.

A CBI release said raids were conducted at 12 locations in Tamil Nadu on Saturday pertaining to illegal mining, transportation and export of Beach Sand Minerals.

The CBI has registered 07 cases, in compliance of order of the Madras High Court on February 17, 2025 in a suo motu PIL, pertaining to illegal mining in three coastal districts of Tamil Nadu (Tirunelveli, Tuticorin and Kanniyakumari) during the period from 2000 to 2017 against 21 accused and six companies/firms and unknown officials/others.

It has been alleged that the accused mining companies/Directors/

Partners entered into Criminal Conspiracy with unknown public servants and unknown private persons and committed theft, cheating and violated the provisions of the MMDR Act, 1957 and the Atomic Energy Act, 1962.

It was also alleged that the public servants had abused their official position and extended undue favours to the accused mining companies.

Further, it has also been alleged that these mining companies caused losses

to the tune of Rs. 5832.29 crore to the government on account of cost of minerals and royalty.

Searches were conducted by CBI at residential and official premises of the accused persons/firms/companies allegedly involved in illegal mining, storage, transportation and export of Beach Sand Minerals, at 12 locations in Tirunelveli, Tuticorin and Chennai which led to recovery incriminating documents. Investigation is continuing.

Former Kerala Min M A Baby elected as CPI-M Natl Gen Secy

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, APR 6

M A Baby was elected as the National General Secretary of the CPI(M) here on Sunday. He was elected to the post which fell vacant following the death of veteran leader and comrade Sitaram Yechury. Mr



Baby was elected on the concluding day of the five-day 24th National Congress of the CPI(M) here today. Seventy-year-old Baby had served as Rajya Sabha members from 1986 to 1998 and was a member of the CPI(M) Politburo, the highest decision-making body of the party.

Rahul to hold 'Palayan Roko, Naukri Do' yatra in Begusarai today

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, APR 6 (UND)

Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, said on Sunday that he will visit Begusarai in Bihar on Monday and hold "Palayan Roko, Naukri Do" (stop migration, give jobs) yatra.

In a video message on X, he said that the campaign

aims to highlight the struggles and sufferings of youth of Bihar and put pressure on the government to provide job opportunities and stop mass migration from the state.

The former Congress president has urged the youth to join him in the campaign by wearing "white T-shirt".

"Young friends of Bihar, I am coming to Begusarai on 7th April to walk shoulder-to-shoulder with you in 'Palayan Roko, Naukri Do' (stop migration, give jobs) yatra," Rahul Gandhi said.

He further said, "The aim of the campaign is to make the entire world see the sentiments of the youth of Bihar, their struggle, their

suffering."

"You too come wearing a white T-shirt, ask questions, raise your voice to put pressure on the government for your rights to remove it. Join the white T-shirt campaign by registering here whitetshirt.in," he said.

Gandhi added, "Let us together make Bihar a state of opportunities."

Dhoni dismisses speculations on IPL retirement

AGENCIES
CHENNAI, APR 6

Former India captain and Chennai Super Kings (CSK) skipper, Mahendra Singh Dhoni, on Sunday said he is taking his IPL journey one year at a time and will decide on playing the next season based on how his body feels after the current edition.

Replying to a question on his retirement from the Indian Premier League in a podcast, Dhoni said, "I am still playing in the IPL and have kept it very simple – I take it one year at a time. I am 43 now, and by the time this season finishes in July, I will be 44. So, I have around 10 months to decide if I want to play one more year or not."

"But it's not really about what I want – it's the body that makes the decision for you. Whether I can continue or not depends on how I feel physically. For now, I am fully focused on what needs to be done this season," he added.

The retirement talk gains traction amid Dhoni's modest performances in the ongoing IPL season. Although the veteran wicketkeeper-batsman



has been dismissed only once in four matches, he has yet to make a significant impact with the bat or finish an innings convincingly.

In the clash against Delhi Capitals, Dhoni managed a run-a-ball 30 off 26 deliveries, as Chennai Super Kings slumped to a 50-run defeat. With just one win from their first four games, CSK find themselves under pressure, and several adjustments will be necessary if they are to mount a serious challenge for a top-four finish this season.

Reflecting on his cricketing journey, Dhoni said he was a product of hard work and the support of

countless individuals.

"Right from my school days – my parents, my games teacher, and those I played my early matches with – everyone played a role. Even tennis-ball cricket taught me things, though it has its quirks," he said.

The 2011 World Cup-winning captain said setbacks are part of sport, but what matters is the ability to bounce back.

"There is no big or small opportunity in life. All of them matter. I am grateful to many people – some may not even know I am thankful to them. But above all, it was cricket itself that gave me the will to win," Dhoni added.

BFC in ISL final after defeating FC Goa

AGENCIES
MADGAON, APR 6

Sunil Chhetri's stoppage-time goal proved decisive as Bengaluru FC edged past FC Goa 3-2 on aggregate to book their place in the Indian Super League (ISL) final, despite going down 1-2 in the second leg of the semifinal at the Fatorda Stadium here on Sunday.

The Blues had come into the return leg with a two-goal cushion and although the Gaurs managed to pull level on aggregate through goals from Borja Herrera and Armand Sadiku, Chhetri's dramatic late header ensured Gerard Zaragoza's men progressed to the final, where they will face the winner of the Jamshedpur



FC versus Mohun Bagan tie on Saturday.

Zaragoza made a solitary change to the eleven from the first leg, handing Jorge Pereyra Diaz a start in place of Ryan Williams.

Goa, meanwhile, brought in Ayush Dev Chhetri and Dejan Drazic for Borja Herrera and Brison Fernandes.

The hosts dominated early proceedings, with

Iker Guarrotxena combining fluently with wingers Drazic and Udanta Singh.

Goa kept possession and pressed high, while Drazic spurned two chances from close range. Bengaluru remained compact at the back and looked to counter through Diaz, Mendez and Sivasakthi.

The Blues were forced into an early change when Lalremtluanga

Fanai replaced the injured Suresh Wangjam around the half-hour mark.

Goa also had to make a substitution, with Herrera coming on for Carl McHugh.

Chances were limited in the first half, with Sivasakthi curling an effort narrowly wide for the visitors, while Gurpreet Singh Sandhu denied Udanta's powerful attempt at the other end to keep the scores level at the break.

Goa came out with intent after the restart and broke the deadlock through Borja Herrera, who bent in a delightful free-kick after Sivasakthi fouled Ayush at the edge of the area. Gurpreet continued to stand tall, making crucial saves to deny Drazic and Guarrotxena.

Bengaluru introduced Aleksandar Jovanovic to tighten the defence, while Williams and Noguera came close to finding the equaliser for the Blues, with the latter drawing a sharp save from Goa custodian Hrithik Tiwari.

Goa struck again in the dying minutes through Armando Sadiku, whose glancing header from Aakash Sangwan's delivery brought the aggregate score to 2-2 and seemed to be sending the contest into extra time.

However, with seconds left on the clock, Namgyal Bhutia's pinpoint cross was met by Sunil Chhetri's diving header, sending the travelling fans into raptures and sealing Bengaluru's passage to their third ISL final.

Ex-Brazil midfielder Luiz Gustavo hospitalized with blood clot

Rio De Janeiro, Apr 6

Veteran Sao Paulo midfielder Luiz Gustavo was admitted to the hospital with a blood clot in the lungs, the Brazilian Serie A club said.

The 37-year-old former Brazil international is being treated at the Albert Einstein hospital in Sao Paulo after complaining of chest pain while training on Saturday morning.

"The player has been hospitalized for observation and treatment," Sao Paulo said in a statement.

"He will remain in hospital for the next few



days, pending further assessments. We wish our number 16 a speedy recovery."

Gustavo joined Sao Paulo last year, marking his return to Brazil after 17

years in Europe and Asia.

Capped 41 times for Brazil's national team, his career has included spells at Bayern Munich, Wolfsburg, Marseille and Fenerbahce, among other clubs.

Rinku Singh recalls journey from humble beginnings to India international



AGENCIES
KOLKATA, APR 6

In a delightful episode of Knight Bite, Kolkata Knight Riders' power-hitter Rinku Singh opened up about his cricketing journey while helping prepare authentic Kolkata-style biryani.

The cooking show, KKR's special IP in association with TTK Prestige, provided fans with a unique glimpse into the left-handed batter's personal side.

While assisting with the preparation of the aromatic Kolkata biryani, complete with its signature potato - a must-have ingredient, according to the host Kunal Kapur - Rinku reflected on his early days in cricket.

"I was studying in Modern School, and there was an inter-school tournament. Some people saw my performance and invited me to play because they saw how good I was with the tennis ball," Singh recalled about his first-ever cricket match.

The talented left-hander revealed his impressive start in cricket: "When I went for batting and the match finished, I had scored 54 runs in 32 balls. That's where my cricket journey began."

Discussing his debut international match for India, Rinku admitted to feeling nervous: "When you play for India, and you achieve what you started playing cricket for, you do feel a bit anxious. In my first match, I didn't get to

bat, just fielding, and it was raining too, so I was a bit worried. But after a little bit of time, everything became normal."

One of the most touching moments came when Rinku spoke about his tattoo that reads "God's Plan, Beautifully Done" alongside the time "2:20" - the exact moment that changed his life forever.

"When I was picked by KKR in 2018 for 80 lakhs, that amount was huge for me and my family. We didn't have much money before that. My family's life changed completely. My siblings' marriages became easier, and we even bought a house with that money," shared the emotional batter.

"That's why I got this tattoo with the family written here. It was exactly 2:21 or 2:20 when I was picked, and everything changed from that moment," he added, pointing to the tattoo that symbolises his special connection with the Kolkata franchise.

As the delicious biryani continued cooking with its aromatic spices, Rinku participated in a fun game where he correctly identified famous Bengali sweets, including rasgulla, jalebi, and gulab jamun, showing his familiarity with Kolkata culture.

He was later joined by his teammates Rahmanullah Gurbaz and Moeen Ali, who were impressed by the cooking skills as the three of them shared the meal together to close out the episode.

Thomas Muller to leave Bayern Munich after 25 years

AGENCIES
BERLIN, APR 6

An era is coming to an end at Bayern Munich after Thomas Muller announced he will leave the club when his contract expires this summer, ending a remarkable 25-year journey with the German giants, the club confirmed in an official statement.

The 35-year-old confirmed his departure in an open letter to fans published on Saturday, a day after Bayern's 3-1 win at Augsburg. His final games for the club will be at this summer's FIFA Club World Cup in the United States.

"This is not a day like any other," Muller wrote. "It has been an incredible journey, full of unforgettable experiences and triumphs. I am grateful to have had this career at my boyhood club."

Muller joined Bayern's academy in 2000 at the age of ten and rose through the youth ranks to become one of the most iconic figures in the club's history.

Since making his senior debut in 2008, the for-



ward has made a record 743 competitive appearances, scoring 247 goals and laying on 273 assists. His list of achievements includes 12 Bundesliga titles, six German Cups, two UEFA Champions League trophies, two FIFA Club World Cups and the 2014 FIFA World Cup with Germany. Despite still feeling joy on the pitch and being open to continuing his role at the club, Muller revealed that Bayern has decided not to offer him a new contract beyond this season.

"Even though it wasn't my personal wish, I respect the club's decision. I know it wasn't easy for those responsible," he said. Bayern chairman Jan-

Christian Dreesen hailed Muller's contribution, describing him as "one of the greatest personalities this club has ever had", while sporting director Max Eberl stressed the "honest and respectful" nature of the talks.

President Herbert Hainer added: "Thomas is the epitome of a Bavarian fairytale career." While Muller's next steps remain uncertain, his immediate focus is clear: "We will give everything to bring the Bundesliga title back to Munich and achieve our dream of the 'Finale Dahoam'. Bayern plans to honor Muller with a farewell match, underlining his unique legacy at the club.

ISL semi-final: Jamshedpur FC enter Mohun Bagan's bastion with a 2-1 aggregate advantage

AGENCIES
KOLKATA, APR 6

Jamshedpur FC and Mohun Bagan Super Giant will face each other in the second leg of their semi-final clash of the Indian Super League (ISL) 2024-25 at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan (VYBK) here on Monday at 7:30 pm IST.

The Khalid Jamil-coached side steered to a 2-1 victory in the opening game of this fixture, snapping MBSG's six-game-long unbeaten streak against the Red Miners.

The League Shield Winners will be drawing confidence from their impeccable home record though, having not given away a goal in any of their previous six games at the stadium.

They will have to extend that streak to overturn the deficit and find a place in the summit clash for the third year running.

MBSG have now lost three of their last four playoff games in the ISL, including each of their last two. They had faced defeats in only two of their first nine playoff matches (W3 D4) before this patch began; a promising run of form they will seek to regain starting from this game.

Having scored 21 goals from set-pieces this season, which is the most ever by a team in a single ISL campaign, Mohun Bagan Super Giant's mastery from dead-ball situations could be instrumental in dissecting Jamshedpur FC's backline. Jamshedpur FC have



scored multiple goals in each of their last four ISL games, which is their second-best such streak ever. However, they have never netted more than once in consecutive games against MBSG before, and an alert home side defence will be eager to sustain that record.

While their attacking form has been inspiring, the Red Miners have conceded a league-high 23 goals in the first half. Jamil will push his team to shore up defensively early on to avoid conceding their aggregate advantage.

Mohun Bagan Super Giant head coach Jose Molina brought the focus to the core objective for the coming match, i.e. to progress into the finals.

"The only thing that is there in my mind right now is the matchday. We have to perform well and win - that's the goal currently," he said.

Jamshedpur FC head coach Khalid Jamil recognised MBSG's strength at home.

"We have kept our preparations for this match the same as before. There is no doubt about Mohun Bagan Super Giant, who always play very well, especially at home," he said.

The two sides have played 11 games against each other, with MBSG winning five times and Jamshedpur FC emerging victorious four times. Two encounters have produced draws. Mohun Bagan Super Giant forward Jamie Maclaren has scored six match-winning goals this season. Only Roy Krishna (eight in 2020-21) and Stiven Mendoza (seven in 2015) have bettered that tally in a single ISL campaign. The 31-year-old has recorded 13 goal contributions, comprising two assists in an eventful debut season. Jamshedpur FC's Javi Siverio's teams have never lost a game in which he has scored in the ISL (W14 D5). The Spaniard has registered seven goals, producing 24 key passes and 110 touches inside the opposition's box this season.

Mohun Bagan Super Giant shot-stopper Vishal Kaith has made 34 saves from outside the box this season, which is third highest in league history, and will play a critical role in denying Jamshedpur FC space to shoot. Kaith has made 200 successful distributions from the back and made a league-high 14 clean sheets too.

ICC highlights power of cricket on International Day of Sport for Development and Peace

AGENCIES
DUBAI, APR 6

As the world celebrates the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace on Sunday, the International Cricket Council (ICC) casts light on some of the remarkable programmes that highlight the power of the sport globally to overcome barriers and cultivate positive social change.

On the theme of 'Levelling the Playing Field: Sport for Social Inclusion', a number of ongoing programmes taking

place across ICC Member federations continue to be a catalyst for change, benefiting the lives of women and girls, refugees and other disadvantaged communities with cricket at its heart.

Cricket Switzerland's Integration Through Cricket Initiative was launched last year in response to a growing number of vulnerable refugees across the country and evolving challenges such as social isolation, language barriers and community integration.

Through cricket clinics, friendly matches and

broader cultural exchange events such as meals, activities and workshops focusing on Swiss language and culture, the project has directly benefitted over 200 young Afghan refugees, with the intention of using cricket as the common language for all to help break down cultural barriers and promote social inclusion.

Elsewhere in the Europe region, another programme that has inspired communities has been Cricket España's No Boundaries Women's Franchise League.

Final two places up for grabs at ICC Women Cricket World Cup 2025 Qualifier

AGENCIES
LAHORE, APR 6

The ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2025 is a few short months away and by April 19, all eight teams will have confirmed their places at the tournament.

Hosts, India are ready to welcome the best and

the brightest of women's One Day International cricket as one of the six teams to have already qualified. Defending champions Australia, secured their ticket to the 13th edition of the World Cup by finishing top of the ICC Women's Championship (IWC) 2022-25.

Cabinet Sub-Committee on reservation rules interacts with public delegations, students at SKICC

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APRIL 06

The three member Cabinet Sub-Committee on reservation rules under the chairmanship of Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo, interacted with several public delegations and students regarding their grievances on reservation rules at SKICC here today.

Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmad Rana and Minister for Youth Services and Sports, Satish Sharma (members of Sub-committee); Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Sanjeev Verma; Commissioner Secretary, GAD, M Raju; Secretary Law, Achal



Sethi and senior officers from General Administration department and Social Welfare department also participated in the meeting.

During the interaction, the delegations presented their view point before the Sub-committee regarding existing reservation policy.

While examining their grievances and issues regarding reservation

rules, the Sub-Committee assured them that the government will take viewpoint of every section of society to arrive at an amicable solution where everyone's interest is safeguarded.

The Sub-Committee further said that they are open for discussions with everyone in order to reach cordial solution.

The Sub-Committee added that they will

present its report within the given time frame of six months to the council of ministers headed by Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah. Pertinently, the Cabinet Sub-Committee was constituted by the Omar Abdullah led government after assuming power to look into grievances projected by several section of aspirants against the existing reservation rules.

Div Com Kashmir celebrates Navratri with Kashmiri Pandit employees at Odina Sumbal



J1 NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, APRIL 6

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Sunday joined the Kashmiri Pandit employees and their families in celebrating Navratri at the Kashmiri Pandit (KP) Colony Odina, Sumbal.

The celebration was marked by spiritual devotion and cultural events.

On the occasion, bhajans and prayers were held at the temple premises of camp which was followed by the distribution of prasad and interaction with the community members.

While extending warm Navratri greetings, the Divisional Commissioner assured the community of the administration's commitment in improving the living conditions and infrastructure at accommodations provided to Kashmiri pandits.

He was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri, besides senior officers from the district administration and police.

Meanwhile, migrant employees expressed their gratitude to the Divisional Commissioner for the visit and participation in the celebrations.



Shri Brajesh Pathak, Deputy Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh called on Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha, today.



Shri Chander Parkash Ganga, Member of Legislative Assembly from Vijaypur called on Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha, today and discussed various issues related to public welfare.

SANJY 2025: DC Bandipora visits Transit Camp Sumbal, reviews facilities

J1 NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, APRIL 6

In view of the upcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY) 2025, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri today visited the Transit camp Shadipora Sumbal to take stock of the facilities being put in place for the smooth and safe conduct of the Yatra.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner inspected the infrastructure at the site and reviewed arrangements related to accommodation, sanitation, drinking water, electricity, medical care, and security for the Yatri.

He laid special emphasis on ensuring the availability of essential services round-the-clock, besides maintaining proper hygiene and cleanliness at the Transit Camp.

The DC directed the concerned departments to



work in close coordination and ensure timely completion of all works related to the Yatra preparations.

He stressed that no compromise should be made in terms of facilities

being provided to the pilgrims, especially in terms of clean toilets, adequate lighting, uninterrupted power and water supply, and robust healthcare services. Among others, SDM

Sumbal Murtaza Ahmad Sheikh, Executive Engineer R&B and PDD, Officers from Jal Shakti and other concerned departments were present on the occasion.

Ramnavmi celebrated with religious fervor, devotion in Poonch

J1 NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, APRIL 6

The festive spirit of Ramnavmi resonated vibrantly in Poonch as residents celebrated the occasion with great religious fervour and enthusiasm.

A grand Shobha Yatra, organized by the Sanatan Dharam Sabha Poonch in collaboration with other religious organizations, commenced from Geeta Bhavan and traversed through the Main Bazaar, culminating at the Khakha Naban Mandir before returning to Geeta Bhavan.

Dignitaries present at the occasion included Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundra; SSP Shafkat Hussain; Tehsildar Haveli, Azhar Majid; Naib Tehsildar, Parkash; along with religious heads from the DGPC Poonch and Ramdas Sewa Society.

The Deputy Commissioner and SSP greeted



the people on the eve of Ram Navmi, emphasizing the festival's significance.

The Shobha Yatra was preceded by Jhan- kis (decorative displays)

Mandir Power House, and Nai Basti, all converging at Geeta Bhavan to join the main procession.

The highlight of the Shobha Yatra was a beautifully adorned chariot representing Lord Rama, serving as the centre of attraction. The procession attracted a large turnout of devotees, who were welcomed at numerous arches along the route with offerings of refreshments and fruits.

Participants engaged in Bhajan Kirtan, culminating in their arrival at Khakha Naban Temple, where they performed prayers before retracing their journey back to Geeta Bhavan.

To ensure the safety of all participants, comprehensive security measures were implemented. The celebrations concluded with a Vishal Bhandara, further fostering a sense of community and devotion among all attendees.

Rajouri Resonates with religious fervor as thousands participate in Grand Ram Navami Procession

J1 NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, APRIL 6

The auspicious occasion of Ram Navami was celebrated with immense religious fervour and devotion across Rajouri, bringing together people from all walks of life in a spirit of unity and piety.

Devotees gathered in large numbers to mark the birth anniversary of Lord Ram with grandeur and enthusiasm.

The highlight of the celebrations was the grand Ram Navami procession, which commenced from the Sanatan Dharam Sabha Temple and traversed through the main market before returning back. The procession was graced by the presence of DIG Rajouri-Poonch Range, Tejinder Singh; Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma and



Senior Superintendent of Police Gaurav Sikarwar, who accompanied the devotees and participated in the celebrations.

Devotees chanted bhajans and hymns throughout the route, infusing the atmosphere with devotion and spiritual energy. The streets echoed with the sounds of conch shells, drums, and devotional songs, enhancing the festive spirit.

The Deputy Commissioner extended warm greetings to the people on the occasion and urged all to imbibe the values and ideals of Lord Ram, which emphasize truth, righteousness, and compassion. He praised the communal harmony witnessed during the event.

SSP also conveyed his greetings and expressed satisfaction over the peaceful and well-coor-

dated conduct of the event.

Later, the Deputy Commissioner also visited the revered Manma Mata Temple in Kalakote and the Ram Temple in Nowshera to pay his obeisance. He was accompanied by ADC Kalakote and ADC Nowshera respectively during these visits.

The district administration and security forces had made elaborate arrangements for the comfort and security of the participants. First-aid stations, drinking water facilities, and traffic management were efficiently handled to facilitate hassle-free participation.

The celebrations culminated with special prayers and offerings at the Sanatan Dharam Sabha Temple, marking a successful and joyous Ram Navami in Rajouri.

Upscaling conservation efforts need of the hour: Javed Rana

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, APRIL 6

Minister for Forest, Ecology & Environment, Javed Ahmed Rana today called for a unified approach for upscaling conservation and management of forest resources, with special focus on wildlife conservation and eco-tourism development.

He made these observations while chairing a review meeting of the forest department here today.

Considering the need to upscale the conservation efforts, the Minister called for a coordinated strategy from all stakeholders involved in forest management, ensuring a holistic and effective approach to conservation.

"We have to work collectively for the efficient management and conservation of our forest resources. The conserva-



tion efforts have assumed huge significance owing to the changing climate pattern," Rana emphasised.

"Local communities have an essential role to play in forest conservation as community forestry has been shown to have numerous benefits, like reducing deforestation and promoting sustainable land use pattern," he added.

He also highlighted the potential of eco-tourism as a sustainable means of generating revenue and supporting local commu-

nities. "We have to focus our efforts toward responsible eco-tourism as it has proven to be beneficial in reducing negative impacts on local ecosystems," he said.

During the meeting, Rana also emphasized on community engagement, sustainable livelihoods and forest protection measures to curb encroachment, poaching and habitat degradation.

The Minister also reviewed current mea-

asures to improve forest fire preparedness and response, aiming to mitigate damage and protect biodiversity.

"There is a need to enhance the monitoring and management of forest fires, particularly in vulnerable areas. We should enhance our efforts towards prediction, prevention and control," he said.

He also directed the concerned officers for timely timber marking, extraction and supply to cater the needs of population.