

Rashid: 'Things change quickly... we have the mindset of champions'

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Health Secretary Reviews Arrangements For Shri Amarnathji Yatra

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Their Mantra Is To Loot In Life And After Death: PM Modi

'Vote Bank Hungry' Cong Wants To Implement Quota On Basis Of Religion

HT News Network

NEW DELHI, APR 24: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday alleged that the Congress plans to tax inheritance passed down from parents to their children. Addressing a poll rally at Chhattisgarh's Surguja, PM Modi said the Congress's dangerous intentions are coming out in the open.

Referring to senior Congress leader Sam Pitroda, he said, "The advisor of the Congress family had earlier said that the middle class should be taxed more. Now they say that they will impose an Inheritance Tax and tax the inheritance received by people from their parents."

PM Modi said the wealth you accumulate with your hard



work won't pass down to your children. "Congress will snatch it as their mantra is loot during your lifetime and even loot after your death."

He said, "As long as you live, Congress' high taxation will

make you suffer. When you are dead, they will put the burden of inheritance tax."

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday hit out at the Congress, saying the "vote bank hungry" party

wanted to implement reservation on the basis of religion.

Addressing a poll rally in Ambikapur, the headquarters of Surguja district in Chhattisgarh, PM Modi also said the Congress wanted to impose inheritance tax in the country and snatch the rights of people's children.

Some forces want a "weak" government of the Congress and "INDI" alliance in the country as they thought that if India becomes 'atmanirbhar' (self-reliant), their shops will be shut, he said.

"Today when I have come to Surguja, I want to present the Muslim League thinking of the Congress in front of the country. When their manifesto was released, on the same day I

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Lt Governor Attends Utthan Foundation's Symposium On Sanatan Culture



HT News Network

GHAZIPUR, UTTAR PRADESH, APR 24: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today attended a symposium on cultural heritage, values and principles of Sanatan Dharma. The

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LG Addresses Conference On 'Role Of Citizens In Holistic Development' At Ghazipur

HT News Network

GHAZIPUR, UTTAR PRADESH, APR 24: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today addressed a Conference on the 'Role of Citizens in Holistic Development' organized at Rainbow Modern School, Ghazipur.

In his address, the Lt Governor highlighted the significant contribution of Jan-Bhagidari in the progress of the nation.

"Citizen Participation is essential for holistic, inclusive development and to

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NEWS BRIEF

Notorious Criminal Detained Under PSA In Samba

JAMMU, APR 24: A notorious criminal was booked and detained on Wednesday under the Public Safety Act (PSA) in Samba district of Jammu and Kashmir.

Police said that the criminal has been detained and lodged in jail under the Jammu & Kashmir Public Safety Act (PSA) in order to curb the criminal activities in the district under the overall supervision of SSP Samba Vinay Kumar.

The notorious criminal Shiv Dayal alias Sunny of Chohala Kothey in tehsil R.S Pura in Jammu district was presently staying in Ward Number 6, Teli Basti, Bari Brahmna, district

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VPN Services Suspended In Rajouri

RAJOURI/JAMMU, APR 24: The authorities on Wednesday ordered the immediate suspension of VPN services till the end of the Lok Sabha elections in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district.

The decision to suspend virtual private networks (VPNs) was taken as a preventive measure to protect information on the Lok Sabha elections and other sensitive data from cyber attacks, Additional District Magistrate (Rajouri) Rajeev Kumar Khajuria said in an order.

"Whereas, a communication has been received from the office of the Senior Superintendent of Police (Rajouri) regarding unprecedented high usage of VPNs during the past

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Government Official Dismissed From Services

JAMMU, APR 24: The Jammu and Kashmir Government has dismissed a Watch & Ward Assistant of erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Council after an Inquiry Officer confirmed in his report that the Government servant accepted a bribe in lieu of promising a Government job to a complainant.

The assistant, identified as Fayaz Ahmad Bhat, faced serious charges after allegedly receiving a hefty sum of Rs. 5 lakh from a person namely Dilawar Manzoor from Berthipora, Shopian. The money was reportedly taken under false pretenses of securing a government job for Manzoor.

Bhat was served with a

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J&K Govt Sacks Erstwhile J&K Legislative Council Assistant For Corruption

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 24: The Jammu and Kashmir Government terminated a Watch and Ward Assistant of the former J&K Legislative Council for taking Rs. 5 lakh from a person promising a government job.

As per the details available with Kashmir News Service (KNS), the assistant, identified as Fayaz Ahmad Bhat, faced serious charges after allegedly receiving a hefty sum of Rs. 5 lakh from a person namely Dilawar Manzoor from Berthipora, Shopian. The money was reportedly taken under false pretenses of securing a government job for Manzoor.

Bhat was served with a memorandum outlining the charges

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J&K Police Warns Against Posting of Photos with Senior Officers on Social Media without Permission

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 24: The Jammu and Kashmir Police has issued an appeal to the public, urging them to remain vigilant against individuals posting photographs with the DGP and other senior officers on social media platforms without proper permission.

The spokesperson in a statement issued here said that it has been observed that some individuals are sharing photos with the DGP or other senior police officials on social media, often taken during social or cultural events where they were present as guests. However, these photos are being shared without the consent of the concerned officers.

He said that this behavior is not only discourteous but also illegal. It becomes a criminal offense if these photos are misused to intimidate or influence others

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67 Suspects Detained Over Rajouri Civilian Killing By LeT Terrorists, Say Police

HT News Network

JAMMU, APR 24: As many as 67 suspected people were detained for questioning in connection with the killing of a civilian by two Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorists in a village in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said on Wednesday.

Click Here To Follow Our WhatsApp Channel During investigations, credible evidence was obtained and the police identified one of the two terrorists involved in committing this act as a "foreign terrorist" with code name Abu Hamza, the officials said. Police further released the pictures of Hamza and announced a cash reward of Rs 10 lakh on him, they said.

"A case under relevant sections of law has

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Emergency Procurement Powers Help Army To Modernise Itself: Army Chief

HT News Network

NEW DELHI, APR 24: Army Chief General Manoj Pande on Wednesday said that emergency procurement powers given by the government has helped the force to modernise itself.

General Manoj Pande was addressing the Seminar themed "Year of Technology Absorption - Empowering the Soldier", at the Manekshaw Centre conducted by Centre for Land Warfare Studies. "Emergency procurement

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Lok Sabha Elections 2024

Over 17.80 Lakh Voters To Decide Fate Of 22 Candidates In Jammu PC On April 26

ECI Establishes 2416 Polling Stations Across PC

HT News Network

JAMMU, APR 24: Over 17.80 lakh voters will decide the fate of 22 candidates contesting from 5-Jammu Parliamentary Constituency in the second phase of Lok Sabha polls to be held on April 26.

The Jammu parliamentary constituency is spread over 18 Assem-

bled segments in four districts including Reasi, Samba, Jammu and Rajouri.

According to the figures provided by the office of Returning Officer 5-Jammu Parliamentary Constituency, there are 17,80,835 registered voters in Jammu PC including 9,21,095 male, 8,59,712 female and 28 transgender electors.



Among these 37,822 (37,025 male and 797 female) are service voters.

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has set up 2416 polling stations across the constituency including 18 Green Polling Stations, 46 Pink Polling Stations and 18 PwD manned polling stations.

Reasi district with three

TURN ON.....PAGE 02

Campaigning For Jammu-Reasi Lok Sabha Seat Culminates With Vibrant Rallies & Road Shows

Returning Officer Sachin Kumar Vaishya Assures Robust Security Arrangements

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 24: The final phase of campaigning for the Jammu-Reasi Lok Sabha seat concluded with a flurry of energetic rallies and vibrant road shows held throughout the

constituency on Wednesday.

As candidates made their last-ditch efforts to sway voters, the political landscape buzzed with fervor and anticipation.

Supporters gathered in large numbers to catch glimpses

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Mohammad Ashraf Mir Files Nomination Papers For Srinagar Lok Sabha Seat

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 24: Apni Party Provincial President Kashmir Mohammad Ashraf Mir, on Wednesday, submitted his nomination papers for the Srinagar parliamentary seat as a candidate for his party.

According to a press release, Mohammad Ashraf Mir submitted his nomination papers as the Apni Party's candidate for the Srinagar Lok Sabha seat at the office of the Returning Officer in Srinagar today.

After filing his nomination papers, Mohammad Ashraf Mir appealed to people to use their votes wisely and reject the traditional parties in these elections. In his message to the people, Mir said, "I

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REC Okays Rs 1,869 Crore Loan For Kiru Hydro Project In J&K

HT News Network

NEW DELHI, APR 24: REC Limited, a Maharatna public sector company and a leading NBFC, has signed an agreement with Chenab Valley Power Project



Private Limited (CVPPPL) for providing a term loan of Rs 1,869.26 crore.

The loan will be utilised for the development, construction and operation of the greenfield Kiru Hydro Electric Project (4x156 MW) on Chenab river located in Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir.

Kiru Hydro Electric Project (624 MW), is a run-of-river scheme proposed

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Inheritance Tax Alien To Democratic Values, Indian Ethos: Dr Jitendra

HT News Network

NEW DELHI, APR 24: Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh today said here today that Inheritance Tax, as proposed by the Congress party, is alien to democratic values and the Indian ethos.

The very concept is incompatible with the value system and cultural heritage as it seeks to take away 50% of the wealth from the family, as suggested in the Congress manifesto, he said.

In an exclusive interview to News X editor Rishab Gulati, Dr Jitendra Singh said, it is a part of appeasement approach of Congress. However, Prime Minister Narendra Modi followed an approach of justice for all and also completed unfin-



ished agendas of the previous Congress governments, he said.

The Minister while speaking on the development of Jammu & Kashmir said the region has witnessed unprecedented

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CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

Their Mantra.....

had said, and saying today also that the Congress manifesto has the imprint of Muslim League," Modi said.

When the Constitution was being drafted, it was decided under the leadership of Babasaheb Ambedkar that there would be no reservation on the basis of religion in India, he said.

"If there will be reservation then it will be for by Dalit brothers and sisters and tribal brothers and sisters," he said.

"But the vote bank hungry Congress never cared about the words of the great personalities, sanctity of the Constitution and the words of Babasaheb Ambedkar. Years ago, the Congress made an attempt to implement reservation on the basis of religion in Andhra Pradesh. Then Congress has planned to implement it in the entire country," Modi said.

They talked about implementing 15 per cent reservation on the basis of religion and said it will be done after curtailing the quota of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes, he added.

In its 2009 manifesto, Congress's intention was the same and in the 2014 manifesto, it clearly said it will not leave this issue, the prime minister said.

The Congress wanted to change the Constitution and hand over rights of the SCs, STs and OBCs to its vote bank, he said.

The intention of the Congress is not good, it is not according to the Constitution, social justice and secularism. If anyone can protect your reservation, it is the BJP, Modi said.

"The Congress's eyes are not only on your reservation, but also on your earnings, your houses, shops and farms. The 'shehzada' of Congress (apparently referring to Rahul Gandhi) says they will conduct an X-ray of the property of every house and every family in the country. The Congress will snatch all these from you and they say that they will equally distribute them," he said.

Do you know to whom they will distribute it after "looting" it from you? Modi asked, to which the people replied in affirmative.

"I need not to tell you to whom they will distribute," he added.

Modi further said the "dangerous intentions" of Congress are coming to forth one by one and now it says it will impose inheritance tax.

"The advisor of shehzada of the shahi parivar, who was also the advisor to the shehzada's father, had said that more tax should be imposed on the middle class and those who earn by toiling hard. Now the Congress says it will impose inheritance tax. It will impose tax on the assets inherited by people from their parents. Now, the panja (Congress poll symbol) will snatch the assets from your children," he said without taking any name.

The Congress' mantra is "loot of Congress zindagi ke sath bhi, zindagi ke baad bhi", he said.

"They (Congress) want to snatch your assets and rights of your children," Modi added.

The PM also said he had come to seek people's blessings for a developed Chhattisgarh and a developed India. (Agencies)

Lt Governor.....

event was organized by Utthan Foundation Trust at Devkali, Ghazipur.

The Lt Governor, in his keynote address, commended the endeavour of the Utthan Foundation and highlighted the role of Sanatan culture in building a progressive society.

He said, the cultural heritage, values and principles of Sanatan Dharma continue to guide the citizens towards an egalitarian society where everyone is able to realise their full potential. He called upon the people to work towards securing a just and equitable society.

Sanatan culture is eternal, inclusive and inspires people to tread the path of humanism. Sanatan culture emphasizes on virtuous living and equality, equanimity, brotherhood and compassion for all, the Lt Governor said.

He said, India is on the path to become Vishwa Guru and the cultural awakening today is inspiring one and all to serve humanity with dedication and devotion. The Lt Governor said, today India is shedding the vestiges of colonial past and people are taking pride in the glorious heritage.

The Lt Governor recalled the teachings of service of Sanatan Culture and urged people to create a caring society based on equality and justice and contribute in the development journey of the country.

This is a golden opportunity for all of us to work together for all-inclusive development. Every individual must contribute to build progressive and prosperous nation, the Lt Governor further added.

LG Addresses.....

create a new future for the society. Active citizen strengthens the bond between the Government and the Society and ensures that the benefits of economic growth reach all sections," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor called upon the people, especially youth to come forward and generate awareness on duties and responsibilities.

"It is our collective responsibility to ensure the weaker section of society enjoy social justice and equality and strive to our utmost

for the realization of the dream of making India a Developed Nation by 2047," the Lt Governor said.

He said India is emerging as a global economic power and it is crucial every citizen discharge its duties and contributes towards nation-building.

The Lt Governor further stressed upon common commitment of nation building and urged the people to work with dedication to make the 21st century, India's century.

J&K Govt.....

against him and was given 15 days to respond. The charges included the accusation that Bhat unlawfully accepted Rs. 5 lakh from Dilawar Manzoor, part of which was deposited into his bank account, with the remainder paid in cash.

The alleged action was carried out with the promise of securing a government job for Manzoor. Such conduct was deemed a violation of Rule-3 of the Jammu and Kashmir Government Employees (Conduct) Rules, 1971.

The investigation into the matter revealed that Bhat's actions tarnished the image and reputation of the institution. Following a thorough inquiry, the charges against Bhat were substantiated, leading to his dismissal from service with immediate effect.

The dismissal, in accordance with Clause (viii) of Rule 30 of the Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956, also renders him ineligible for future employment.

Over 17.80.....

Assembly Constituencies, including Gulabgarh (ST), Reasi and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi, has 23,52,62 voters including 12,33,23 male, 11,19,36 female and three transgender voters. Among these 1393 are service voters (1364 male, 29 female). The ECI has set up 425 polling stations across the district including 97 vulnerable and 16 critical.

Samba district, comprising three Assembly Constituencies including Ramgrah (SC), Samba and Vijaypur has 2,59,198 voters, including 1,32,861 male, 1,26,336 female and one transgender voter. Among these 10,269 (10,073 male, 196 female) are service voters. The ECI has set up 365 polling stations in the district, including 72 critical.

Similarly, Jammu district, comprising 11 Assembly Constituencies including Bishnah (SC), Suchetgarh (SC), R S Pura-Jammu South, Bahu, Jammu East, Nagrota, Jammu West, Jammu North, Marh (SC), Akhnoor (SC) and Chhamb has 11,89,389 electors, including 6,13,988 male, 5,75,378 female and 23 transgender voters. Among these are also 24,315 service voters (23,768 male, 547 female). The ECI has set up 1488 polling stations across the district, including 38 vulnerable and 15 critical.

Likewise, Rajouri district with only Kalakote-Sunderbani Assembly Constituency falling in Jammu PC, has 96,986 voters (50,923 male, 46,062 female) and one transgender voter. Among these 1845 (1820 male, 25 female) are service voters. The ECI has set up 138 polling stations in the Assembly Constituency, including 88 vulnerable and 14 critical.

The R S Pura-Jammu South Assembly Constituency has the highest number of 1,24,744 voters (64,687 male, 60,054 female), three transgender voters including 1592 service. The EC has set up 147 polling stations across this AC.

Similarly, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Assembly segment of Reasi district has the lowest number of 55,737 voters (29,340 male, 26,397 female including 271 service voters) and the election authorities have set up 91 polling stations across the segment.

Campaigning.....

of their preferred candidates, while speeches echoed promises and pledges for the region's development.

With the culmination of these spirited events, the stage is now set for voters to make their crucial decision on polling day.

The voting day for the Jammu-Reasi constituency is set for April 26th of April with more than 17.80 lakh voters eligible to participate in the electoral process by casting their ballots.

Spanning across 18 assembly segments in four districts, namely Reasi, Samba, Jammu, and Rajouri, the Jammu-Reasi parliamentary constituency has emerged as a pivotal battleground in the electoral arena.

News agency KNS reported that a total of 22 candidates, representing various political parties and independents, are in contention, each seeking to sway the electorate with their manifestos and promises.

According to data released by the office of the Returning Officer for the 5-Jammu Parliamentary Constituency, the constituency boasts 17,80,835 registered voters, comprising 9,21,095 male, 8,59,712 female, and 28 transgender electors. Additionally, 37,822 service voters, including 37,025 male and 797 female, are part of the electoral roll, underscoring the diverse demographic composition of the electorate.

Among the candidates vying for the parliamentary seat, notable contenders include the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) two-time incumbent MP, Jugal Kishore, and the Jammu & Kashmir Congress Working President, Raman Bhalla.

The electoral fray has witnessed high-profile campaign efforts, with Home Minister Amit Shah and Minister of State for Finance, Anurag Thakur, extending their support to Jugal Kishore, while senior Congress leaders Sachin Pilot and Raj Babbar rallying behind Raman Bhalla.

As the campaigning fervor reached its crescendo, political rallies and road shows reverberated across the constituency, with candidates addressing crowds and outlining their vision for the region's development and prosperity.

The Election Commission, in tandem with law enforcement agencies, has assured stringent security arrangements to ensure the smooth conduct of polls and uphold the sanctity of the electoral process.

As citizens brace themselves to exercise their democratic right, all eyes are on April 26th, when the fate of candidates will be sealed in the ballot box. Meanwhile, Returning Officer, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, assured citizens of robust security arrangements and overall preparedness for a smooth polling process.

Vaishya emphasized the comprehensive measures undertaken to ensure the safety and integrity of the electoral process.

With polling scheduled for April 26th in the Jammu Raisi constituency, Vaishya conveyed confidence in the security apparatus, stating that law and order situations are firmly under control.

He reiterated that all necessary precautions have been taken to facilitate free and fair elections, assuring voters of a safe environment to exercise their democratic rights.

"The security arrangements in place are robust and extensive, aimed at safeguarding the sanctity of the electoral process," stated Vaishya during. "We have deployed adequate personnel and resources to ensure that polling stations remain secure and accessible to voters."

He affirmed that the Election Commission, in coordination with law enforcement agencies, has left no stone unturned in addressing potential challenges and maintaining order during the electoral proceedings.

The Returning Officer reiterated his appeal to voters to exercise their franchise responsibly and urged them to cooperate with election officials and security personnel deployed across polling stations.

REC Okays....

on Chenab and is about 42 km from Kishtwar. The project envisages the construction of a 135-metre-high dam and an underground powerhouse with 4 units of 156 MW each.

The agreement was signed in the presence of CVPPPL Managing Director Ramesh Mukhiya, and Deputy General Manager Rishabh Jain from REC Limited.

CVPPPL is a Joint Venture Company between NHPC (51 per cent) and JKSPDC (49 per cent) formed at the initiative of the Jammu and Kashmir government and the Central government to harness the vast hydro potential of Chenab river.

The company was incorporated in 2011. CVPPPL has been entrusted with the construction of Kiru HE Project (624 MW), Pakal Dul HE Project (1,000 MW), Kwar HE Project (540 MW), & Kirthai-II HE Project (930 MW) on Build, Own, Operate and Maintain (BOOM) basis with an aggregate installed capacity of 3,094 MW.

J&K Police....

for personal gain, such as extorting money or promising governmental benefits by claiming association with authority figures.

The J&K Police emphasizes that such actions should be reported and exposed by the public. Citizens, including community members, students, workers, and residents, are urged not to fear any repercussions from these unscrupulous individuals, he said.

The police assure the public that they will take appropriate action against anyone found misusing photographs with senior officers for unlawful purposes. It is essential for everyone to be cautious and uphold ethical standards when sharing photos on social media platforms, he added.

Mohammad....

urge people to use their vote wisely and elect Apni Party candidates who are committed to working for the peace, prosperity, and development of Jammu and Kashmir. This is the time for people to reject traditional parties and their leaders, who have been deceiving them for years and decades through deceptive political narratives and false promises."

"Over the past more than These parties kept people busy with emotional slogans like 'Raishumari', 'Autonomy', 'Self-rule', and so on. While keeping people busy with emotional sloganeering and unattainable goals, the leaders of these parties created empires for themselves. They created their family rule here, making the future of their young generations secure. Therefore, it is important people reject these exploitative politicians by the power of their vote," he added.

While submitting his nomination papers, Mohammad Ashraf Mir was accompanied by the senior party leaders including chairman of the party's Parliamentary Affairs Committee (PAC) Mohammad Dilawar Mir, Vice President Usman Majid, Vice President Javid Mustafa

Mir, Senior Leader and Former Mayor of Srinagar Junaid Azim Mattu, District President Srinagar Noor Mohammad Sheikh, District President Kupwara Raja Manzoor, Former Legislator and Senior Leader Yawar Mir, Youth Leader Imaad Rafi Mir, Provincial president of Youth Wing Khalid Rathore, and others.

67 Suspects.....

been registered in Police Station Thanamandi. Till now, 67 suspected persons have been detained for questioning post this incident," police said in a statement.

Mohammad Razaq (40) was killed on Monday in the Kunda Top village of the Thanamandi area. Razaq worked in the government's Social Welfare department while his brother Mohammad Tahir Choudhary is a soldier in the Territorial Army, who escaped unhurt.

Police along with security forces deployed in the twin districts of Rajouri-Poonch range are working in close synergy to neutralise this group and dismantle their support ecosystem, they said.

Additional Director General of Police, Jammu zone, Anand Jain, on Tuesday, visited Rajouri to oversee and reinforce security measures in the border district. (Agencies)

Emergency.....

powers given by government over four tranches has helped us to modernise ourselves with contracts worth at Rs 18,000 crore signed under it. These equipment's are now being used on the border," General Manoj Pande said in a seminar organised by the Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS), here.

He said that given the impact of technologies like Artificial Intelligence, cyber, big data analytics and electronic warfare, the salience of the cognitive domain is increasing manifold in the restructuring and reorganisation of the force.

"Given the impact of technologies like Artificial Intelligence, cyber, big data analytics and electronic warfare, the salience of the cognitive domain is increasing manifold," he said.

The Army Chief said that towards improving mobility and protection, procurements include Light Strike Vehicle, Light Specialist Vehicles and Bullet Proof Jackets.

"Towards improving mobility and protection, procurements include Light Strike Vehicle, Light Specialist Vehicles and Bullet Proof Jackets. Battlefield situational awareness is being increased through Border Surveillance Systems and Nano Drones," he said.

"We have Swarm Drones, Loiter Munitions, and new Artillery platforms such as 155mm MGS, TGS, K9 Vajra, and ATAGS for target acquisition and precision fires. New-generation Munitions include 155mm Terminally Guided Munition and Canister Launched Munition," he added.

He said that Indian Army's indigenous procurement includes light vehicles and bullet proof jackets.

"Night fighting capability of Indian troops is being enhanced through night vision devices and communication systems are also being improved," he said.

Earlier on April 23, General Pande delivered the keynote address at AIMA's 9th National Leadership Conclave on 'Hard Power - Modernising Forces Through Self Reliance'. The COAS highlighted the transformative initiatives underway in the Indian Army for building a self-reliant, tech-enabled & future-ready force which will contribute towards realising the aspirations, goals & objectives of Rising India. (Agencies)

Inheritance.....

development in various sectors in the past ten years. Several constitutional barriers had been removed by the Modi government to bring J&K to the mainstream of development, he added.

Dr Jitendra Singh highlighted various infrastructure projects completed in the past ten years in his constituency such as Asia's longest road tunnel, world's highest railway bridge, opening of three government funded medical colleges, first industrial biotech park in North India, first homeopathic hospital in North India, two Passport offices in the constituency, dozens of rural roads and bridges increasing last mile connectivity and bringing the remotest parts of the country in the mainstream. In terms of education, Dr Jitendra Singh said, this government brought IITs, IIMs, AIIMS and various central Universities in the UT of Jammu & Kashmir.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, development under Prime Minister Modi is inclusive in all parts of the country and his leadership has given a change to the mindset of people. Now policies are made by keeping in mind 'Antodaya' that is to reach those who need it the most and not on the basis of caste, creed or religion.

The Minister also highlighted the normalcy in Kashmir under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi. He said that more than two crores tourists visiting Kashmir is the testimony of peace in the Valley. He also highlighted that common people have benefited from the national level schemes such as 'Swachha Bharat Mission and the toilets in each household made under it. LPG cylinders under Ujjawala Scheme empowered women and people got Pucca houses under PM Awas Scheme. All these developments have forced people to change their mindset and vote for the Bharatiya Janata Party who have not been traditional voters of the party but development and pan India popularity of Prime Minister Modi due to adoption of an honest approach in the last ten years, he added.

He also highlighted that people in the illegally occupied part of Jammu & Kashmir (PoJK) aspire to be a part of India seeing the development in this region. More and more people are optimistic towards the leadership of Prime Minister Modi seeing the harmonious and uniform development even in the North East part of India, he said.

Speaking on the local self-governance under 73rd and 74th Amendment of the Constitution, Dr Jitendra Singh said, this government operationalized district councils and empowered Panchayats earmarking true sense of democracy in J&K.

The Union Minister for Science & Technology said, there was no dearth of scientific acumen in the country but was lacking enabling milieu by policy makers and leadership. He highlighted that India has taken tremendous leap in progress of Science & Technology specially in the Space Sector. India is the first country to reach the Southern Pole of the Moon. In terms of quantum technology we are not only equal but ahead of many countries. Lavender cultivation has empowered farmers to become entrepreneurs. Anushandhan National Research Foundation will open a large field for research and development in the country, he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that the Indian Institute of Astro-physics Bengaluru under his Ministry had played a key role in contributing the Surya-Tilak of Lord Ram in Ayodhya on the occasion of Ram Navmi.

Notorious.....

Samba and has been involved in a number of criminal cases registered against him at various Police Stations.

His criminal activities have posed a serious threat to public peace and tranquility, said police.

Following his repeated engagement in criminal activities, detention order was issued by the District Magistrate Samba based on detailed dossier prepared by SSP Samba.

The police team led by SHO PS Bari Brahmana, Sumit Sharma successfully executed the warrant, detained the notorious criminal and lodged in District Jail Kathua.

VPN Services.....

few days in different parts of this district by scores of suspicious Internet users," the order mentioned.

"Whereas, VPN transmits get encrypted and creates point to point tunnel, masks IP address and lets sidestep website blocks and firewall on Internet thus making data related to forthcoming Lok Sabha elections and other sensitive data vulnerable to cyber attacks," it added while announcing the suspension of all VPN services in mobile phones in the district till the end of the election process.

Rajouri is part of Anantnag-Rajouri Lok Sabha constituency, which goes to the polls on May 7.

Government.....

memorandum outlining the charges against him and was given 15 days to respond. The charges included the accusation that Bhat unlawfully accepted Rs. 5 lakh from Dilawar Manzoor, part of which was deposited into his bank account, with the remainder paid in cash.

The alleged action was carried out with the promise of securing a government job for Manzoor. Such conduct was deemed a violation of Rule-3 of the Jammu and Kashmir Government Employees (Conduct) Rules, 1971.

The investigation into the matter revealed that Bhat's actions tarnished the image and reputation of the institution. Following a thorough inquiry, the charges against Bhat were substantiated, leading to his dismissal from service with immediate effect.

The dismissal, in accordance with Clause (viii) of Rule 30 of the Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956, also renders him ineligible for future employment.



Health Secretary Reviews Arrangements For Shri Amarnathji Yatra

JAMMU, APR 24: Secretary, Health and Medical Education, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, today chaired a meeting to review healthcare arrangements being put in place for the upcoming Shri Amarnathji Yatra, 2024.

During the meeting, the Administrative Secretary directed the officials to collaborate closely with Shri Amarnath Shrine Board, Health Department and security forces to ensure coordinated healthcare services for the Yatri.

The Secretary instructed the officials to finalize all necessary arrangements before the Yatra begins. He highlighted the importance of having both portable and fixed oxygen supplies

at all health centers established along the Yatra route. Further, he instructed Director Health Services, Kashmir, to expedite establishment of a 100-bedded hospital by ONGC and arrange the required human resources for the hospital. He also stressed the need to make sure that all essential medicines and medical equipment are readily available for the pilgrims.

The Secretary emphasized the importance of facilitating a seamless and hassle-free Yatra experience for the pilgrims. He directed for ensuring that requisite healthcare staff should be readily available at all healthcare institutions, especially on highways and critical points along the Yatra route. He called



for implementation of a quick and reliable emergency response system at all levels and instructed the officials to ensure deployment of ambulances along the Yatra route. He asked for keeping the 102 and 108 Ambulance systems on alert during the Yatra.

The Director Health Ser-

vices Kashmir provided an overview of the planned healthcare arrangements for the Yatra. He informed that a total of 55 medical centers will be set up, including 06 base hospitals with 100 bedded hospital each at Baltal & Chandanwari, 11 medical aid centers, 12 emergency aid centers, 26 oxygen booths,

and 15 on-route facilities. He further stated that 17 on-route facilities will be kept on standby to address any emergencies. The Director also shared that they have planned to deploy a total of 1415 healthcare staff for the Yatra, including 173 specialists, 244 medical officers, and 998 paramedics. Out of these,

754 will be sourced from J&K, and 661 will be requested from the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India.

The Deputy Director Health Services, Jammu (Nodal Officer for Amarnath Yatra Jammu Division) provided the details of medical arrangement on Yatra routes from Lakhampur to Banihal. He informed that 15 emergency rooms will be made operational to tackle any emergency during the Yatra, 53 health centres will be ready for providing medical care facilities to Yatries from Lakhampur to Lamber ground Banihal. More than 60 ambulances including 20 ALS ambulances shall be utilized during

Yatra. Apart from this, the services of 15 Doctors and 60 Paramedics of Jammu Division will be placed at the disposal of Director Health Services, Kashmir for Amarnath Yatra-2024. The medical teams will also be deployed at Yatri Niwas Bhagwati Nagar Jammu and Yatri Niwas Chanderkote, Ramban to provide 24x7 medical care facilities to Amarnath Yatries.

The meeting was attended by senior officials from the Health & Medical Education Department, Director Health Services Kashmir and Deputy Director Health Services, Jammu, Chief Engineer, R&B, South Kashmir, and Chief Medical Officers of J&K.

PDP to represent sentiment of youth democratically: Waheed Parra

SRINAGAR, APR 24: Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) youth president and a contestant from Srinagar Lok Sabha constituency Waheed Parra Wednesday said that the party will try its best to represent sentiment of youth in the Parliament democratically.

Parra who filed nomination for Srinagar Lok Sabha seat today, told Kashmir News Service (KNS) exclusively that our effort in this election is to reach every household of Jammu and Kashmir and seek votes and confidence of people who have been left unattended from last five years.

He said PDP represents youth of Jammu & Kash-



mir and their aspirations, and assures people of the region that we will become your voice.

He appealed voters to give us an opportunity to serve your sentiments in the Parliament. "Give us a chance and see how PDP will represent people in New Delhi's Parliament," he said.

Parra asserted that people of Jammu and Kashmir are craving and have urge to connect with PDP as this is only party who flagged up their concerns in odd and even. "After August 05, 2019 no political leader dared to speak up for their people. Every one remained tight lipped, and it was only Mehbooba Mufti who took a stand and stood for people," he said.

"PDP will try its best to represent people's sentiment democratically," Parra added.

He continued that many elements were thinking for boycott, but I appeal to my people especially youth to vote whosoever they want to elect. "Your vote is inevitable for change," he added.

Will hold NC accountable for every single atrocity on innocent Kashmiris since 1987: Sajad Lone

Addresses massive workers' convention at Trehgam; thousands attend rally

SRINAGAR, APR 24: J&K Peoples Conference President Sajad Lone made a resolute pledge today to hold NC leaders accountable for their involvement in the innocent killings, torture, incarceration, proliferation of graveyards in every village since 1987 and the unjust imposition of PSA on Kashmiri populace.

He highlighted the strong ideological alignment between National Conference and BJP, citing historical instances when Omar Abdullah as NDA minister shamelessly defended the killings of Muslims.

"Even when Vajpayee's gov-

ernment rejected NC's proposal for greater autonomy in the 90s, NC leaders unethically chose to succumb to a mere ministerial role. They have long been allies of BJP. Yet now, they callously invoke Islam in Kashmir as a veil to obscure their unforgivable crimes against Kashmiris," he stated.

Lone was addressing a mammoth workers' convention of Kralpora Zone in Trehgam constituency, held in the area of Dard Harie. He expressed profound gratitude for the overwhelming love and support of the people.

The esteemed party leaders,



including Advocate Bashir Ahmad

Dar, Abdul Ahad Kashmiri, Irfan Pandithpuri, Haji Farooq Mir, DDC Masrat, DDC Habibullah Beigh, Shiekh Aslam, Rydham Singh, Tasaduq Yaseen, Mansoor Bandy, Rahil Dar, Rafie Lone among others graced the event with their presence.

He said that persistent massive gatherings mark a crucial juncture in the history of J&K, as the resilient majority rises, steadfast in their demand for the restoration of dignity and rights.

"The resounding message is crystal clear: Peoples Conference is not only here to endure but to triumph, amplifying the voice of

the common man in the halls of Parliament."

Lone proclaimed that North Kashmir has resolved not to allow "Tourists" to determine the destiny of their future or that of their children any longer.

"Those who failed to advocate for our rights for over 28 years in Parliament are undeserving of even contesting candidates from Baramulla Parliamentary constituency. NC has consistently prioritized self-interest over the pressing issues of livelihood, sustenance, and development that have left the people suffering for decades", he concluded.

BJP's polarising rants result of INDIA alliance's success, wider acceptability: Mehbooba

SRINAGAR, APR 24: Addressing several rallies across South Kashmir, Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) President Mehbooba Mufti delivered a scathing critique of the escalating turbulence and fear gripping Jammu and Kashmir, asserting that the current atmosphere of uncertainty far surpasses the tumult of past gun culture. On this occasion senior party leader Mohammad Sartaj Madni, Aijaz Ahmad Mir Ex MLA, Mohd Yousuf Bhat Ex MLA, District President Manzoor Ahmad Zargar, Addl. Spokesperson Mohammad Amin Dar, Zafrullah Wani, Muzafar Ahmad Wagay, Nissar Ahmad, Sheikh Gh Mohiuddin, Gulzar Ahmad Dar, Mohd Yaseen besides many others were also present and spoke to the gatherings.

Mehbooba said that since the revocation of Article 370 in 2019 people of Jammu and Kashmir have endured suffocation and widespread fear, likening the prevailing silence to that of a graveyard. Despite the imposed

silence, the PDP President declared her unwavering defiance, highlighting the consequences her family has faced at the hands of government agencies. "Post abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir when every single person was silenced, I preferred to speak truth to power as soon as I came out of the jail. Even though my family had to bear the consequences, my aged mother, my brother were hounded. But I didn't surrender my voice, and my stand," Mehbooba said.

Warning against the consequences of silence, Mufti emphasized the importance of voting as a means to combat oppression. She denounced violence, affirming that guns and stones only lead to graves filled with lost lives and shattered families. "If we remain silent today, we will have nothing left for our future generations. Voting not guns or stones is the answer to the prevalent oppression. Guns and stones only filled our grave-

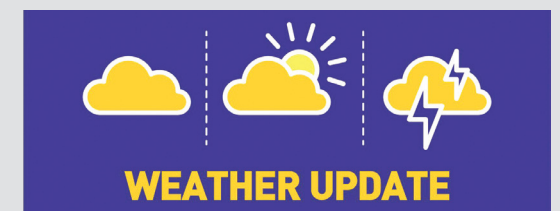
yards, orphaned our children and widowed our women. I want to reiterate that we will not allow those immense sacrifices to go to waste but at the same time, we will have to understand that vote and voice are our weapons to fight for our rights and against this highhandedness," She said.

The PDP President further underscored the continuous erosion of Kashmiri rights and resources, citing the issuance of new decrees akin to August 5, 2019. Expressing concern over the proliferation of drugs among the youth, she called for reflection on the origins of such substances. "August 5, 2019 should not be viewed in isolation. Every single day is August 5 for us. Everyday, new Shahi Farmans are being issued and they are eyeing on our resources, on our jobs, our forests, our hydroelectricity and on our lithium reserves. They are throwing our youth into the menace of drugs. One must ponder where these drugs come from."

Amidst persistent thundershowers, J&K braces up for 3-day heavy rainfall from Apr 27

SRINAGAR, APR 24: As the parts of Kashmir continued to witness thundershowers in the afternoon hours for the last couple of days, the weatherman here has predicted moderate to heavy rainfall in Srinagar and elsewhere from April 27.

Talking to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Director Meteorological department (MeT), Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said that the afternoon thunder-



showers are expected to continue for tomorrow as well, but a three-day wet spell is expected in Jammu & Kashmir from April 27.

"As per the forecast, moderate to heavy rainfall is expected in J&K areas especially in Srinagar, South Kashmir areas, Ramban and Doda from April 27 to April 29," he said, adding that the major activity is expected on April 29.

About the fall in the maximum temperature, he said that the maximum temperature will continue to witness a fall in the next few days and is expected to improve from May 01, 2024. Moreover, as per the data, Jammu & Kashmir has recorded normal precipitation from March 01, 2024 to April 24, 2024.

Samba is the only station where the deficient rainfall of 22 per cent has been recorded during the period. As per the data, against the normal precipitation of 187.5 mm, Srinagar has recorded 275.5 mm rainfall during the period.

So far since March 01 till April 24, Anantnag, Budgam, Bandipora, Baramulla, Ganderbal, Kulgam, Kupwara, Pulwama and Shopian stations have recorded normal precipitation.

However, Shopian district in South Kashmir despite witnessing hailstorm and moderate rainfall from the last couple of days, has recorded large deficient rainfall, where against the normal precipitation of 194.4 mm, only 70.8 mm rainfall was recorded during the period.

Buyers vanish as gold prices soar in Kashmir

Gold dealers cite ongoing Israel-Iran conflict for high gold prices

SRINAGAR, APR 24: Gold dealers in Jammu and Kashmir are struggling to get buyers as the rates of the yellow metal have been increasing since the escalation of tension between Iran and Israel.

As per news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the latest spike in gold prices came after geopolitical tensions between Iran and Israel, with both nations engaging in aggressive rhetoric and military posturing.

Such geopolitical uncertainty

often triggers a flight to safety among investors, driving up the demand for assets like gold, traditionally considered a hedge against political instability and economic turmoil.

In response to the soaring prices, gold traders have witnessed a noticeable shift in consumer behaviour. Instead of flocking to purchase gold jewellery during the ongoing wedding season, gold dealers rarely get any customers nowadays.

As per the gold dealers, the

rate for 22 karat has increased to Rs 6,660 per gram. For 24 karat (999 gold) pure gold, the price stands at Rs 7,216 per gram.

Mohammad Yusuf Zargar, a gold dealer said they have been struggling to get customers for more than a month now after tension escalated between Iran and Israel.

"The gold rate skyrocketed. We have been only getting the sellers while there is very less turn to buy the gold. Last week, the gold pound touched Rs 65000.

Though the rates have been now coming down still it is unaffordable for the middle class. As such dealers have ceased to sell the pound as of now," he said.

The gold dealers said many investors are opting to liquidate their gold holdings to capitalize on the booming real estate market.

"We've seen a decline in foot traffic and sales of gold jewellery. People are selling their gold to invest in property, believing it offers better returns and stabil-

ity in uncertain times. Almost 9-percent of the sellers said they are selling gold to invest in real estate," said Abdul Rouf, another gold dealer.

As the wedding season in Kashmir approaches, gold dealers and jewellers claim that the soaring prices are deterring prospective buyers. "Since April, marriage and other wedding related functions start in the valley. People struggle to buy the jewellery as its cost has increased for the last one month," Rouf said.

Lok Sabha Election- 2024 DC Kupwara kick starts Plantation Drive at PS Wadder Payeen

HT News Network

KUPWARA, APRIL 24: Mega Plantation Drive under SVEEP was held today across all polling stations of district Kupwara which was aimed at to promote eco-friendly practices among voters and polling officials and ensure vibrant and active participation of electorate in the upcoming Lok Sabha Election 2024. Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Ms. Ayushi Sudan who is also

District Election Officer today kick started the Plantation Drive in the district by planting a Cedar tree in the premises of Polling Station Wadder Payeen. Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Handwara, Aziz Ahmad Rather, DFO Langate, XEN R&B, ZEO, Tehsildar and other concerned were present on the occasion. The Deputy Commissioner also visited various polling stations of Handwara sub division during which she carried out plantation activities and took stock of availability of the



Assured Minimum Facilities (AMF) in polling stations for smooth participation of electorate especially PWD and old age voters. During her visit to the Rajwar block, the Deputy Commissioner paid a surprise visit to NTPHC Wadder and inspected the ongoing immunization programme. Earlier, the Deputy Commissioner presided over a training programme of concerned officers at Environment Hall Handwara and sensitized them about their role and

responsibility in the fair and smooth conduct of the election in the district. ADC Handwara was also present at the occasion. Meanwhile, on the directions of the District Election Officer Kupwara, Plantation Drives were carried out in all polling stations of the district which were led by the concerned Assistant Returning Officers (AROs) and saw participation of officers from Forest Department, Social Forestry, Education and other concerned departments.

Anant National University Spearheads Innovation in Education with a Multidisciplinary Approach

HT News Network



Srinagar, 24th April 2024: Anant National University, India's first DesignX University based in Ahmedabad, aims to reshape the educational landscape in India through its diverse array of multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary research and learning opportunities, with courses spanning design, architecture, climate action, and visual arts. Recognizing the pivotal role of design thinking across various sectors like community development, climate resilience, infrastructure, and healthcare, the university aims to empower students to become catalysts for positive change – the solutionaries of the New Bharat!

Leveraging the NEP's proactive stance on early-stage design education and the government's unwavering support for modern educational paradigms, Anant National University is expanding its outreach to budding designers in the Jammu and Kashmir region. Introducing the inaugural edition of "Anant Design Summer IsCool", the university unveils a dynamic summer school program aimed at immersing students and educators in the transformative realm of design. This initiative seeks to not only expand awareness of the diverse range of design courses and career opportunities but also to enrich the learning journey through immersive experiences. Through comprehensive programs, participants will gain invaluable insights into the multifaceted world of design, empowering them to embark on impactful educational and professional pathways.

At the heart of Anant National University's approach is the DesignX methodology, a distinctive framework that fosters holistic learning by immersing young designers in their communities, fostering innovation, and promoting collaboration. Central to this pedagogical approach is the integration of sustainable design principles with a myriad of knowledge domains and cutting-edge technologies, empowering students to address real-world challenges with impactful solutions.

Offering undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs in design, architecture, climate change, and visual arts, alongside fellowship initiatives in Sustainability and Built Environment and Climate Action, Anant National University is at the forefront of integrating sustainability into education. With the recent launch of Anant School for Climate Action (ASCA), India's first climate school, the university equips students with the necessary skills to bridge the existing skill gap in climate-related sectors for sustainable development and green job opportunities.

In addition to its academic innovations, Anant National University is committed to fostering inclusivity and diversity among its student body. The introduction of ADEPT (Anant Design Entrance and Proficiency Test) in regional languages such as Hindi, Gujarati, Bengali, and Tamil reflects the university's commitment to providing equal opportunities to students from diverse linguistic backgrounds.

Central to Anant's success is its exceptional faculty, comprising distinguished scholars and industry practitioners renowned for their expertise and contributions to their respective fields. The university's partnerships with leading industry players and academic institutions worldwide, namely – the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Miami, Pratt Institute, Boston Architectural College, and MIT Solve, among others, further enhance its academic offerings and provide students with invaluable internship and scholarship opportunities. Anant National University's dedication to excellence extends beyond the classroom, with initiatives like the ARAMBH incubation centre nurturing entrepreneurial talent and Various student labs such as Makerspace (a collaborative workshop area open to students), the Climate Lab (entirely committed to the university's values- it is sustainable, carbon neutral and powered by renewable energy) and tinkering lab (a workspace for students to learn, experiment and develop their ideas into prototypes) -fostering innovation and hands-on learning experiences. As a trailblazer in sustainable education, the university is committed to providing a holistic educational experience that prepares students to thrive in a rapidly evolving world.

ازنیابت چرار شریف

ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ فٹ کلاس چرار شریف بہ اجلاس نائب تحصیلدار چرار شریف عنوان: درخواست منجانب اسد اللہ کھانڈے ولد غلام احمد کھانڈے سے سائیکل پچوٹی تاحصیل چرار شریف نسبت اجرائی فوجی سرٹیفکیٹ بحق متوفیہ مسماہ فریضی

DEATH CERTIFICATE

اشتہار بمراد آگاہی

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصد میں درخواست سائل اسد اللہ کھانڈے دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی و تحقیقات ہے۔ رپورٹ چوکیدار و پنوار اعلیٰ حلقہ سے عیان ہے کہ سائل کی زوجه مسماہ فریضی مورخہ 21-10-2019 کو فوت ہوئی ہے۔ لہذا سائل کو اپنی زوجه کی فوجی سرٹیفکیٹ death certificate نکالنی مطلوب ہے۔ لہذا اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص کو اس بارے میں کوئی نذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر عدالت ہذا میں پیش کریں۔ بعد از معیاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی نذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار چرار شریف

ازنیابت چرار شریف

ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ فٹ کلاس چرار شریف بہ اجلاس نائب تحصیلدار چرار شریف محمد شفیع کوٹی عنوان: درخواست منجانب محمد شفیع بانڈے ولد حبیب اللہ بانڈے سے سائیکل پچوٹی بخرش یوم پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ (D O B) بحق پسر نابالغ محمد شہباز

اشتہار بمراد آگاہی

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصد میں درخواست سائل محمد شفیع بانڈے دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی و تحقیقات ہے۔ رپورٹ چوکیدار علاقہ سے عیان ہے کہ سائل کا پچوٹی محمد شہباز مورخہ 28-05-2010 کو پیدا ہوا ہے۔ اس سائل کو اسے پسر کی یوم پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ (D O B) نکالنی مطلوب ہے۔ لہذا اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص کو اس بارے میں کوئی نذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر عدالت ہذا میں پیش کریں۔ بعد از معیاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی نذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار چرار شریف

ازنیابت چرار شریف

ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ فٹ کلاس چرار شریف بہ اجلاس نائب تحصیلدار چرار شریف محمد شفیع کوٹی عنوان: درخواست منجانب عبدالرشید بٹ ولد عبدالکریم بٹ ساکنہ چراروٹی تاحصیل چرار شریف بہ اجلاس نائب تحصیلدار چرار شریف محمد شفیع اختر

اشتہار بمراد آگاہی

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصد میں درخواست سائل عبدالرشید بٹ دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی و تحقیقات ہے۔ رپورٹ چوکیدار علاقہ سے عیان ہے کہ سائل کی دختر شہینہ اختر مورخہ 03-11-1992 کو پیدا ہوئی ہے۔ اس سائل کو اپنی دختر کی یوم پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ (D O B) نکالنی مطلوب ہے۔ لہذا اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص کو اس بارے میں کوئی نذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر عدالت ہذا میں پیش کریں۔ بعد از معیاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی نذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار چرار شریف

اطلاع عام

سیر ایجنسی کنکشن زیر id نمبر 0209020006161 جو کہ غلام محمد کمار کے نام پر درج ہے اب تبدیل کر کے عادل حسین کمار ولد غلام محمد کمار کے نام پر درج کرنے کی درخواست ہے اس بارے میں اگر کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات یوم اندر محمد کمار صاحب ڈیو جین عثمتمتہم کے دفتر میں پیش کرے معاد گزرنے بعد کوئی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا

المشتر

عادل حسین کمار ولد غلام محمد کمار ساکن لاری پورا پھلگام انتت ناگ

اطلاع عام

مجھے sapphine the resort کی ریسٹورنٹ میں جھگڑا ہوا ہے۔ یہاں پر سائل کی درخواست ہے کہ اس بارے میں کوئی نذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات یوم اندر اسٹریٹ ڈیو جین عثمتمتہم کے دفتر میں پیش کرے بعد از معیاد گزرنے کوئی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا

المشتر

غلام قادر بٹ ولد عبدالخالق بٹ گنیش بل پھلگام

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR BIRTHS & DEATHS BLOCK PAHALGAM

Subject:- Registration of Births / Deaths

PUBLIC NOTICE

This office is in receipt of representation from MOHD AKBER MALIK R/O, MANDLAN PAHALGAM Tehsil PAHALGAM District ANANTNAG for issuance of BIRTH Certificate in favour of my SON namely GULZARAHMAD MALIK S/O MOHD AKBER MALIK R/O MANDLAN PAHALGAM D.O.B as per documents is 25/09/1958 & event has been o to be occurred at HOME In this connection if anyone have any objection in the registration of birth certificate shall present his/her claim to the office of Tehsildar /BDO office PAHALGAM within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained

REGISTRATION BIRTH & DEATH (BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICE PAHALGAM)

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE TEHSILDAR PATTAN (Executive Magistrate 1st Class)

Subject: Issuance of Registration Orders in respect of delayed Birth/ Death certificate.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Registrar Births and Deaths (EXECUTIVE OFFICER MUNICIPAL COUNCIL PATTAN /BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICER PATTAN has submitted case file pertaining to Birth of ABDUL FAZAL S/O TASADUQ HUSSAIN DAR R/O ARAMPORA PATTAN Tehsil PATTAN Dist. Baramulla with verified the date of Birth, as 27/07/2023 and event has been to be occurred at SDH PATTAN .In this connection .

if anyone have any objection to the issuance of said registration shall present his/her claim this office within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertaine

EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE 1ST CLASS PATTAN

PUBLIC NOTICE

My father, namely Mr Gh Hassan Wani (Azad), is missing since friday afternoon. He left home around 3 pm on Friday 19/04/24 and didn't return. If anybody has seen him or knows anything about his whereabouts he may kindly inform us on following No.s.9149777482., 8493079715

SAJAD AHMAD WANI (SON) R/O RESHI PORA NANIL ANANTNAG

Office of the SMB Memorial Institute Arwah Zone Beerwah

This is to make public that the date of birth of my son MOHAMMAD ARSLAN NATHS/O MANZOORAHMAD NATH Mothers Name - SHAMEEMA BANO R/O ARWAH BEERNAH is a bonafide student of this School (SMB Memorial instt. Arwah) according to the school records his date of Birth is corrected as 05-05-2013.


Anybody having any objection in this regard may approach the office of Principal SMP Principal S.M.B Memorial Instt. Arwah within 07 days of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained after the said time period.

Public Notice Through Father - Manzoor Ahmad Nath...

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my RC/Insurance of my vehicle Maruti bearing Registration No JK01U- 6616 Model 20013 from Mandbal to Lalchowk .Now i Want to its duplicate . If anyone have any objection In this he may contact Rto Office Srinagar within aperiod of within 07 days, after that no objection shall be entertained.

Name -Mustaq Ahmad Khawaja R/o MANDIBAL NOWSHERA C/OZAKURAI INDUSTRIAL ESTATES ANNAFOOD AND SPICES,



SKIE CLASSES

DEAR ALL, WE WOULD LIKE TO INFORM YOU THAT FOR OUR SOURA BRANCH, TODAY, APRIL 22ND, AT 3:30 PM, THERE IS AN ORIENTATION PROGRAM SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE. THIS EVENT WILL BE GRACED BY THE PRESENCE OF DR. SADDAM AND HAMID MUFTI. LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR ATTENDANCE AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION. BEST REGARDS, SKIE CLASSES

UNDER THE VIBRANT MENTORSHIP OF SADDAM SIR

SOURA OPPOSITE SUMO STAND NEAR JKBANK
0194-3502109 | 8899901387 | 7006886386

BJP's communal narrative weakening national unity: Rattan Lal Support INDIA Alliance Candidate Mian Altaf to oust BJP from power

HT News Network

RAJOURI April 24th: Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of J&K National Conference today launched a scathing attack against the Saffron Party for its alleged attempts to sow communal divisions in the country for its petty political gains.

The senior NC leader was speaking during the election campaign meeting in support of Party's candidate Mian Altaf Ahmed in Village Kaller Block Dongi of district Rajouri.

During the campaign, Ch. Naseem Liaqat, DDC Chairman Rajouri, Th. Rameshwar Singh DDC Dhangri, Ch. Khilaid Hussain DDC Dongi, Ch. Reyaz former BDC Chairman Dongi, Ch. Maqbool Hussain former BDC Chairman Dhangri, Yashu Vardhan, Additional Spokesperson JKNC, Vijay Lochan, Chairman JKNC SC Cell, Shafayat Khan District President Rajouri, Showket Mir, Rakesh Singh Raka, and other senior leaders of the Party were



present. At the outset of the meeting, Th. Rameshwar Singh, DDC Dhangri and Provincial Vice President JKNC Jammu, apprised the senior functionaries of the Party about the hardships being faced by the people of hilly terrain in absence of basic amenities.

Addressing the gathering, Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President lambasted the BJP for its relentless pursuit of divisive politics, which he described as detrimental

to the nation's social, secular, fabric and democratic ethos.

"The BJP's continuous attempts to sow seeds of communal discord for its own electoral gains are deplorable and reprehensible. Their communal narrative is not only dividing communities but also weakening the very ethos of our nation."

Reacting over the 'Mangalsutra' remarks of PM Modi, Rattan Lal said that the Saffron Party was seeking to indulge

in politics of religion but would not succeed as people of the country with diverse religious traditions live in harmony. He said that BJP's agenda of divisive politics will never succeed. "National Conference has always stood strongly against divisive forces and will foil the machinations of those who were hell bent to destroy the multigrain social and secular fabric of the country," he added. Adv Naseem Liaqat, DDC Chairman, Rajouri, expressed profound disappointment with the present government's indifferent attitude towards the populace amidst the absence of a popularly elected government. He underscored the government's failure to allocate sufficient funds for the development of hilly terrains, resulting in the deprivation of basic amenities for the people residing there. Highlighting the plight of the weaker sections of society, Vijay Lochan Chairman SC Cell, Ch. Khalid DDC Dongi, Ch. Reyaz, Ch. Maqbool, Khurshida Begum, lamented their continued neglect under the incumbent government.

"Overnight Sensation: Poor Boy's Heartwarming Vlogs Capture Kashmir's Heart, Then Vanishes!"

HT News Network



In a surprising turn of events, a young boy from a humble background in Kashmir has become an internet sensation overnight, captivating the hearts of netizens with his simplistic yet charming vlogs. The boy, known by his Instagram handle "moomin," uploaded only a few short videos showcasing his daily life, but his authenticity and originality resonated deeply with viewers. One of his videos, a heartwarming home tour, showcased the simplicity and love within his family's old house, winning over the hearts of many. Social media users praised him, calling him a "real vlogger" with "no filters and show off." His videos were widely shared, with many requesting support for this talented young creator. However, in a surprising twist, moomin's Instagram channel has suddenly disappeared, leaving fans wondering what happened to their new favorite vlogger. Despite his brief online presence, moomin has left a lasting impact on Kashmir's social media community, inspiring many with his raw talent and humility. His disappearance has sparked a frenzy of speculation, with fans hoping for his return and continued sharing of his unique perspective.

National Panchayati Raj Day observed in Kupwara

HT News Network



KUPWARA, APRIL 24: National Panchayati Raj Day was today observed at block headquarter Qalamabad in district Kupwara during which a function was organized which was presided over by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC), Handwara, Aziz Ahmad Rather, Tehsildar Qalamabad, officials and people in large number participated in the function. On the occasion, the ADC highlighted the importance of National Panchayati Raj Day. He underscored the need for active citizen engagement in shaping the development at grassroot level. Meanwhile, various speakers also spoke and highlighted the importance of Panchayati Raj.

03 vehicles seized, ₹42,500 fine imposed on the violators in Pulwama

HT News Network

Pulwama April 24: Police along with other law enforcement authorities conducted a rigorous Naka checking operation near Pinglena, resulting in significant actions against violations related to transportation of materials. A total of 14 vehicles found carrying excess material have been handed over to the Geology and Mining Department for imposition of fines.

Additionally, three vehicles discovered to be operating without proper challans were seized during the operation. These vehicles have also been transferred to the Geology and Mining Department for further legal proceedings. As a result of the enforcement actions taken, a total fine amounting to ₹42,500 has been imposed on the violators. Three vehicles operating without proper challans have been seized for transporting materials.

This operation underscores the commitment of law enforcement agencies to uphold regulations and maintain order in transportation activities. We remain steadfast in our efforts to ensure compliance with legal requirements to safeguard public safety and welfare.

Kotwal Visits Different Areas Of District Rajouri

Amir Iqbal Khan

Jammu, April 24: Ajit Singh Kotwal, Vice President J&K Saksham visited today different remote areas of District Rajouri. During his tour, he visited Moghla, Jungrial, East and West Berwari Paltha and Trereru to aware Divyangjan about the power of their votes.

On this occasion, he said that many of Specially abled persons are still unregistered. "At a time, such persons are unable to cast their votes as per the guidelines of the Election commission of India for the reason they are not registered," he said.

Stating about the importance of exercising the franchise and demanding facilitative means for differently Abled Persons, he further commented,

"You should share your democratic responsibility by casting valuable votes and elect your choicest representatives, who can raise voice to mitigate problems and grievances being faced by the community."

HDFC Bank Educated over 2 Lakh Citizens on Safe Digital Banking Practices

HT News Network

Srinagar, Apr 24, KNT: HDFC Bank as a part of digital banking awareness drive, conducted a series of secure banking workshops pan India. The Bank organized over 16,600 workshops sensitizing over 2,00,224 citizens on safe digital banking practices.

These workshops were aimed at educating school and college students, law enforcement agencies, senior citizens, self-help groups, customers and employees. Through these interactive sessions, participants gained valuable insights on safe digital banking practices so that they don't fall prey to cyber frauds.

In these workshops, attendees were introduced to the mission of International Fraud Awareness Week in advocating digital awareness. Detailed discussions were held explaining common cyber threats like Vishing, Phishing, Smishing, remote device access, SIM swap, and UPI frauds. Real-life examples were used to deepen understanding. Attendees were guided not to divulge sensitive information such as OTPs, CVVs, Debit/Credit card credentials and UPI PINs. Manish Agrawal, Executive Vice President - Credit Intelligence and Control - HDFC Bank said, "The objective of these workshops is to educate participants on various modus operandi used by fraudsters and the secure banking practices that they need to follow so that they do not become victims of such online frauds. These awareness workshops are in line with HDFC Bank's philosophy and core value i.e. Customer Focus."

Director Sericulture Conducts Extensive Tour to Budgam Ahead of Spring Silkworm Rearing Season

HT News Network

Budgam, April, 24 (KNS): Director Sericulture Ajaz Ahmad Bhat conducted a comprehensive tour of District Budgam to take stock of the preparations of the District establishment of the department in run up to the Spring Silkworm Rearing, season of 2024 commencing very soon in Kashmir Division.

The Director Sericulture J&K during the tour of the District inspected various Mulberry Nurseries and Farms located at Haran, Churmujru, Sangrampora, and Beerwah to evaluate the availability of mulberry foliage for silkworm rearing being conducted in the District. During the occasion he interacted with the officers, field functionaries and Silkworm Rearing/Farmers hailing from these areas and reminded them of the heyday of the Industry when the economy of the State of J&K was revolving around Sericulture Industry.

Ajaz Ahmad Bhat, Director, Sericulture J&K further called for concerted and relentless efforts in order



to bring back the past glory of the Sericulture Sector and take it to new heights. He urged for conducting of door-to-door campaign to promote silkworm rearing, highlighting of farmer friendly schemes and dissemination of technical knowhow amongst the old and new entrants (Silkworm Rearing) to empower them and enhance their participation in the development of Industry so that they can derive better returns.

The Director Sericulture J&K while expressing views during his interaction with Silkworm Rearing/ Farmers made them aware about the various facilities and unwavering support of the department which include technical guidance and pro-

viding of rearing kits, disinfectants free of cost and financial assistance in a phased manner for constructing rearing sheds. Besides, he also informed them that the department provides mulberry plants free of cost with incentives to the Farmers / Silkworm Rearing.

He further clarified that the landless farmers can also avail the facility of acquiring Mulberry Plants from the nearby Nurseries of Sericulture Development Department for conducting mulberry plantation on government vacant land, embankments and on the outer periphery of vacant land of government buildings and schools near to them so that they will avail the foliage at their door steps without facing any predicament.

The Department of Sericulture maintains four Mulberry Nurseries in District Budgam spanning over an area of 120 Kanals of land producing a good number of quality Mulberry Plants annually for distribution among the farmers and plantation on State/Community land to create mulberry leaf reserves for landless and marginal Farmers.

Secretary IT reviews security audit of government websites

HT News Network

JAMMU, APRIL 24: Commissioner Secretary, Information Technology, Prerna Puri, today convened a meeting with all departmental nodal officers to review progress on conduct of Security Audit in respect of departmental websites and applications.

The Commissioner Secretary enjoined upon all the Administrative Departments to ensure security audit of their departmental websites/applications through CERT-In empanelled agencies by 30th April, 2024. She also asked



for expeditious completion of auditing process within the stipulated timelines.

During the meeting, a hand-holding and training session was also conducted by JaKeGA for all

nodal officers in view of directives issued by GAD regarding use of DSC or Aadhaar based e-sign/e-Hastaakshar in e-office. The use of DSC aims to achieve the objective of adopting a digital working environment, reducing dependencies on physical documents, practicing proper security measures to ensure security in cyber space and preventing the unauthorized access to government files in the e-office.

Among others the meeting was attended by Additional Secretaries, ITD, Departmental Nodal Officers and project team (s) of JaKeGA.

FIL Industries Hosts Successful Annual F&B Dealers Meet in Srinagar

HT News Network

Srinagar, April 24 (KNS): FIL Industries Private Limited, a leading entity in the F&B industry, recently concluded its highly anticipated Dealers Meet 2024 at Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC) on 24th April 2024.

Welcoming the esteemed attendees, S.M. Javed Bukhari, Vice President FIL Industries Private Limited delivered the opening address.

The annual event witnessed the participation of 100 plus prominent channel partners from Kashmir and Ladakh. The event served as a platform for industry leaders to convene, exchange insights, and

explore avenues for future growth.

"I and my team are immensely pleased to have had the opportunity to host our esteemed business partners from Kashmir. Their collaboration is truly invaluable, emphasizing their pivotal role in driving the expansion of our F&B business. The association underscores FIL's steadfast commitment to fostering excellence and innovation within the vibrant F&B sector, solidifying its position as a beacon of industry leadership and collaborative synergy", said Owais Altaf Syed - Director, FIL Industries Private Limited. The highlight of the event was the launch of Fruit-Fil's CAN variant with chunks in three exciting flavours. This unveiling contributed to the depth.

Lok Sabha Elections 2024: DEO Baramulla visits Gulmarg AC to ensure AMFs at all polling stations

HT News Network

BARAMULLA, APRIL 24: Ahead of the Lok Sabha elections in 1-Baramulla Parliamentary Constituency, the District Election Officer (DEO) of Baramulla, Minga Sherpa accompanied by Syed Altaf Mosavi, the ARO, 11-Gulmarg Assembly Segment, today undertook a comprehensive inspection of various polling stations of Sub-division Gulmarg to ensure the availability of Assured Minimum Facilities (AMFs).

The DEO conducted an inspection of multiple polling stations, conducting a comprehensive assessment of crucial aspects such as ramp availability, sanitation facilities, provision of drinking water, and electricity supply which come under



the purview of Assured Minimum Facilities (AMFs) mandated by the ECI guidelines.

Speaking during the visit, the DEO underscored that the district administration has meticulously arranged all neces-

sary facilities to ensure a smooth and hassle-free experience for both poll parties and voters during the Lok Sabha Elections.

He elaborated that special arrangements at polling stations have been implement-

ed for voters with disabilities, including the installation of ramps at all 905 polling stations across the district.

Minga Sherpa emphasized that wheelchair facilities will be provided at all polling stations mapped for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), adding that the PWDs can proactively access this service in advance through the Saksham App, a user-friendly initiative by the ECI aimed at enhancing voter convenience.

During the visit, the DEO also conducted a thorough assessment of the arrangements at the Dispatch Center, Kunzer, which serves as the hub for dispatching poll parties and election materials to polling stations of the Assembly Segment 11-Gulmarg during the Lok Sabha Elections.

EDITORIAL

LET YOU INTROSPECT!

With the electioneering at its feverish pitch the regional mainstream parties of Jammu & Kashmir are busy in witch hunt and are blaming each other. These parties have been accusing each other of supporting Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) in one way or other. However, these parties are forgetting an important point in this regard and that is that they have been a part of the BJP governments at one time or other.

National Conference's Vice President Omar Abdullah was a junior minister in the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government at the centre headed by veteran BJP leader late Atal Bihari Vajpayee. As such he cannot blame the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) of betraying the people of Jammu & Kashmir by entering into alliance with the BJP and forming the government in the erstwhile state of Jammu & Kashmir in 2015.

The PDP President Mehbooba Mufti cannot blame the National Conference for the bloodshed in Jammu & Kashmir since it was she who in the aftermath of 2016 street violence had said that youth have not gone to military camps to fetch candies and that the security forces carrying out firing on them is justified. Mehbooba also cannot justify her alliance with BJP since her party had before the 2014 elections said that only PDP can stop BJP's entry into Jammu & Kashmir.

Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari has been quite critical of PDP and its President Mehbooba Mufti. But Bukhari is forgetting that he was part of the PDP-BJP coalition government in Jammu & Kashmir from 2015 to 2018. It was former chief minister and PDP founder late Mufti Mohammad Sayeed who groomed Bukhari and gave him important portfolios like finance and public works department in the government.

Peoples Conference Chairman Sajad Gani Lone has been claiming that he is pious and has no scar in his political career. However, Lone is also forgetting that he was also a minister in the PDP-BJP coalition government and as such he cannot accuse the PDP of joining hands with BJP. He also cannot point fingers towards NC about the religion and the religious practices since he too has been blamed in this regard in the past.

Given this scenario it would be prudent for the leaders of leading mainstream parties to stop blaming each other and do something for the common masses. The people of Jammu & Kashmir want their leaders to take up the onus and carry forward their voice to the central government. They want solution to their daily problems and that is possible only when their representatives are sincere.

Facial recognition: Coming soon to an airport near you

Biometric technology is expanding at airports across the United States — and the world — and transforming the way we move through them, from checking a bag to boarding the plane.

■ **Christine Chung**

On a recent Thursday morning in Queens, travelers streamed through the exterior doors of La Guardia Airport's Terminal C. Some were bleary-eyed — most hefted briefcases — as they checked bags and made their way to the security screening lines.

It was business as usual, until some approached a line that was almost empty. One by one, they walked to a kiosk with an iPad affixed to it and had their photos taken, as a security officer stood by. Within seconds, each passenger's image was matched to a photo from a government database, and the traveler was ushered past security into the deeper maze of the airport. No physical ID or boarding pass required.

Some travelers, despite previously opting into the program, still proffered identification, only for the officer to wave it away.

This passenger screening using facial recognition software and made available to select travelers at La Guardia by Delta Air Lines and the Transportation Security Administration, is just one example of how biometric technology, which uses an individual's unique physical identifiers, like their face or their fingerprints, promises to transform the way we fly.

This year could be the "tipping point" for widespread biometrics use in air travel, said Henry Hartevelde, a travel industry analyst for Atmosphere Research. Time-consuming airport rituals like security screening, leaving your luggage at bag drop and even boarding a plane may soon only require your face, "helping to reduce waiting times and stress for travelers," Hartevelde said.

In the United States, major airlines have increasingly invested in facial recognition technology as have government agencies in charge of aviation security. Overseas, a growing number of international airports are installing biometrics-enabled electronic gates and self-service kiosks at immigration and customs.

The technology's adoption could mean enhanced security and faster processing for passengers, experts say. But it also raises concerns over privacy and ethics.

Dr. Morgan Klaus Scheuerman, a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Colorado who studies the ethics of artificial intelligence and digital identity, said many questions have emerged about the use of biometrics at airports: How are the systems being trained and evaluated? Would opting out be considered a red flag? What if your documents don't match your current appearance?

"I'm sure many people feel powerless to stop the trajectory," Scheuerman said.

In the U.S., Bullish About the Technology The TSA, with more than 50,000 officers at nearly 430 airports in the United States, is the main federal agency ensuring the safety of the hundreds of millions of passengers who fly each year. Travelers who are determined to be "low-risk" can apply for TSA's PreCheck program, which offers expedited security screening at more than 200 domestic airports.

PreCheck, which requires an in-person appointment to show documents and give fingerprints, and biometric verification by Clear, a private screening company, have helped to reduce the wait time for screening, but air travelers still must occasionally stand in long queues to get to their gates.

The TSA has experimented with facial recognition technology since 2019. Screening

verification currently offered at Denver and Los Angeles International Airports and some 30 other airports starts when a photo is taken of the traveler. Then facial recognition software is used to match the image to a physical scan of a license or passport. The photo is deleted shortly afterward, according to the agency. This process, which passengers can opt out of, will be available at some 400 more airports in the coming years, the agency said.

Melissa Conley, a TSA executive director overseeing checkpoint technologies, said biometric technology is better than human agents at matching faces rapidly and accurately.

"People are not good at matching faces. It's just known," Conley said. "Machines don't get tired."

The process still requires passengers to show their IDs. But the program being tried by Delta, called Delta Digital ID, changes that.

With Delta Digital ID, PreCheck travelers can use their faces in lieu of boarding passes and ID at both bag drop and security at La Guardia and four other airports, including John F. Kennedy International Airport, also in New York City's Queens borough, and Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport.

Facial recognition shaves more than a minute off bag drop, to roughly 30 seconds, and reduces the security interaction from 25 seconds to about 10 seconds, said Greg Forbes, Delta's managing director of airport experience. While a "simple change," the time savings add up, making the line noticeably faster, Forbes added.

"Anywhere that there's PreCheck, I think, could benefit from Digital ID," Forbes said.

Other airlines have begun similar experiments for PreCheck travelers: Those flying on American Airlines can use their faces to get through PreCheck screening at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport and also to enter the airline's lounge at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport. United Airlines allows PreCheck travelers to use their faces at bag drop counters at Chicago O'Hare International Airport; the airline is scheduled to bring this program to Los Angeles International Airport in March.

And Alaska Airlines plans to spend \$2.5 billion over the next three years in upgrades, including new bag drop machines, in Seattle, Portland, Oregon, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Anchorage, Alaska. A machine will scan the traveler's ID, match it to a photo, and then scan the printed bag tags. The new system, designed to move guests through the bag tagging and dropping process in less than five minutes (compared to around eight minutes now), will be in Portland in May.

Charu Jain, the airline's senior vice president of innovation and merchandising, said that it felt like the right moment for Alaska because of improved technology and increasing passenger familiarity with facial recognition.

At the Borders

The fastest growing use of facial recognition software at U.S. airports so far has been in security measures for entering and exiting the United States.

The growth stems from a 2001 congressional mandate, in the wake of 9/11, requiring the implementation of a system that would allow all travelers arriving and departing the United States to be identified using biometric technology.

Overseen by the Customs and Border Protection agency, the biometric system for

those entering the United States is in place, and scanned 113 million entries at airports last year. For those leaving the country, the system is available at 49 airports, with the CBP aiming to cover all airports with international departures by 2026.

Biometric entry is mandatory for foreign nationals. But biometric exit is currently optional for these travelers, while CBP is making the system fully operational. At any border, the biometric process is optional for U.S. citizens, who can instead request a manual ID check.

Diane Sabatino, acting executive assistant commissioner for field operations at CBP, said that the system aims to improve security, but she acknowledged rising privacy concerns. Images of U.S. citizens taken during the process are deleted within 12 hours, she said, but photos of foreign nationals are stored for up to 75 years.

"We are not scanning the crowd looking for people," she said. "It's certainly a privacy issue. We are never going to ask them to sacrifice privacy for convenience."

Miami International Airport, the second busiest airport in the U.S. for international passengers last year, has one of the "largest deployments" of biometrics in the country, airport executives say. In a partnership with SITA, a global information technology provider for the air transport industry, the airport has installed the technology for departing passengers at 74 out of 134 gates and plans to cover the remaining gates by the end of this year, said Maurice Jenkins, chief innovation officer at Miami-Dade Aviation Department.

The contract with SITA costs \$9 million, but Jenkins said the new technology was increasing efficiency in the rest of the airport's operations, such as fewer gate agents checking documents.

Document-Free Travel Overseas

Experts believe the future of air travel is one where facial recognition will be used throughout the entire airport journey: bag drop, boarding, even entering lounges and purchasing items at retail stores within the airport. It may be so streamlined that security checkpoints could be eliminated, replaced instead by security "tunnels" that passengers walk through and have their identity confirmed simultaneously.

"This is the future," said Dr. Sheldon Jacobson, a computer science professor at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign who researches aviation security.

According to a recent report by SITA, in which 292 airlines and 382 airports around the world were surveyed, 70% of global airlines are expected to use some sort of biometric identification by 2026 and 90% of airports are currently investing in the technology.

More comprehensive experimentation has already landed at some airports abroad. Later this year, Singapore's Changi Airport intends to go passport-free for departures; all passengers, regardless of nationality, will be able to use this system. At Frankfurt Airport in Germany, passengers can now use their faces from the time they check-in to boarding. The airport is installing biometric technology throughout its two terminals and making it available to all airlines.

In China, 74 airports — 86% of the country's international airports — have biometric technology in place, according to a report released last month by the global market research company Euromonitor and the U.S.

Travel Association. At Beijing Capital International Airport, the country's busiest airport, travelers can use facial recognition throughout their entire journey, even to pay for items at duty-free shops.

But in the United States, according to the report, only about 36% of international airports have some biometric capabilities.

There are several reasons for the country's lagging adoption, said Kevin McAleenan, the former acting secretary for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and currently CEO of Pangiam, a travel technology company. Simply, the United States has many airports and the immigration exit process here is different from other places.

At many airports overseas, the government controls immigration for departing travelers, allowing these airports to have a government-established biometric system.

In the United States, airlines, using CBP passenger data, confirm the identities of travelers leaving the country.

Concerns Over Government Surveillance

Biometrics use has already seeped into daily life. People unlock their phones with their faces. Shoppers can pay for groceries with their palms at Whole Foods.

But critics believe that the technology's convenience fails to outweigh a high potential for abuse — from unfettered surveillance to unintended effects like perpetuating racial and gender discrimination.

Cody Venzke, senior policy counsel on privacy and technology at the American Civil Liberties Union, said the government had not yet shown a demonstrated need for facial recognition technology at airports and worried about a "nuclear scenario."

"Facial recognition technology," he said, could be "the foundation for a really robust and widespread government surveillance and tracking network."

"That technology might be able to be used to track you automatically and surreptitiously, from place to place, as you go about your day, and create a really detailed mosaic about everything about your life," Venzke said.

The ACLU supports a congressional bill, introduced last November, called the Traveler Privacy Protection Act. Listing concerns over security and racial discrimination, the bill would halt the TSA's ongoing facial recognition program, and require congressional authorization for the agency to resume it.

Conley, of the TSA, said a stop in the agency's biometrics efforts would "take us back years."

For some travelers, facial recognition has already become a reliable tool. At JFK on a recent afternoon, Brad Mossholder, 45, used Delta's Digital ID line to breeze through the security screening at Terminal 4 and bypass a dozen travelers in the adjacent PreCheck lane.

He was flying from his home in New York to San Diego for his job in corporate retail, and as a frequent business traveler, has used facial recognition several times. The process is faster and easier overall, Mossholder said, and he wasn't worried about privacy.

"Honestly, my photo is on LinkedIn, it's on a million social media sites," he said. "If you really wanted to see a picture of me, you could."

This article originally appeared in The New York Times

Pink With A Purpose: Understanding Breast Cancer



■ **Dr B Niranjan Naik**

Breast cancer is the most common cancer affecting women globally. According to the National Cancer Registry, over 1.9 lakh women in India are diagnosed with breast cancer each year. Alarmingly, 55% of these cases are identified at an advanced stage, with less than a 15% chance of survival. Early detection, on the other hand, boosts survival rates to over 90%.



Early Detection Matters: The cure rate for breast cancer is an impressive 97% when detected early. Unfortunately, less than 10% of the 100,000 new cases in India fall into this category. Unlike the West, Indian women are affected at a

younger age (30-40 years), often leading to late-stage diagnoses due to low awareness regarding breast screening and self-examination.

Understanding the Risks: Breast cancer doesn't have a single known cause, but

various factors contribute. Urbanization brings its challenges, with pollution affecting water, air, and food. Pesticides in fruits and vegetables, genetic mutations, environmental toxins, lifestyle factors, and hormonal influences are all linked to breast cancer.

Recognizing Symptoms: Painless lumps in the breast or armpit, nipple discharge, skin changes, and nipple retraction are symptoms to watch for. Early diagnosis involves a clinical examination by a cancer specialist, with mammography and breast ultrasound being reliable diagnostic tools.

Treatment and Outcomes: Recent advances in medical fields have transformed breast cancer management. Surgery, chemotherapy, targeted immunotherapy, radiotherapy, and hormonal therapy have improved overall survival. With awareness and early intervention, people now live longer

than two decades post-diagnosis.

Prevention and Self-Care: Exercise, a positive attitude, adequate rest, and proper nutrition form the pillars of good health. A diet rich in antioxidants and regular exercise play preventive roles. Monthly Breast Self-Examination (BSE) is a simple yet effective method for early detection. Women in high-risk groups should undergo regular breast screening tests after the age of 30.

Early detection is the best protection against breast cancer. Regular monthly self-examination is a key factor in identifying symptoms early. It's a simple step, and the power lies in your hands. So, be breast sure, because in the battle against cancer, early detection is your best ally.

Dr B Niranjan Naik is a Consultant, Surgical Oncology, Fortis Hospital Gurugram

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The Hidden Reality Of Modern Slavery



By Mool Raj

In the shadow of our interconnected world, a sinister reality persists, largely hidden from view but inflicting unimaginable suffering upon countless individuals, as we move forward towards the better changing world, it is crucial to confront this harsh truth and take an eye on the faces behind the statistics. Modern slavery is defined by UNO (United Nations Organizations) as "The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of exploitation". The modern slavery effects society, which lasts for the rest of their lives and can have impacts on subsequent generations. Slavery skews demography, deteriorates agricultural production, increases gender discrimination and violence. The main victims of modern slavery are men, women and children of all ages.

Sex trafficking is a form of modern day slavery

In which a person gets exploited by trafficker which leads to the deterioration of individuals well being. International Labour Organization (ILO) reported 4.5 million victims of forced sexual exploitation and is increasing at an alarming rate. Elements of modern slavery are child slavery, forced criminality, domestic servitude, sexual exploitation, forced labour, forced marriage and sex trafficking. It is being told that the most common form of modern slavery is forced labour and forced marriages. Roughly 49.6 million live in modern slavery out of which 22 million people are in forced marriage. There are myriad causes of Modern day slavery such as:

Lack of knowledge is a major cause of mental slavery. When people don't have access to knowl-



Poverty is another factor in creating and perpetuating mental slavery, as it can limit individual's opportunities and limit their ability to liberate themselves from oppressive system. Poverty often leads to lack of access to education, healthcare and other essential resources, which can make it difficult for people to develop the skills and knowledge. This lack of access can make people feel hopeless, helpless and powerless, which can lead to the feelings of despair and a lack of self esteem. It can increase the possibility that people will be subjected to abuse, exploitation and discrimination, which can further erode their sense of self worth and dignity. The mental toll of poverty can be devastating and can trap people in a cycle of poverty and oppression that can be difficult to escape

edge, they are more likely to be vulnerable to the opinions and beliefs of others, which can limit their ability to think critically and make independent decisions.

In particular, individuals who lack education and access to information are more susceptible to falling into mental slavery without a solid foundation of knowledge they may not have the vision to critically evaluate information and form their own opinions. As a result, they can blindly accept what they are told, rather than engaging in critical thinking and questioning authority.

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ity to liberate themselves from oppressive system. Poverty often leads to lack of access to education, healthcare and other essential resources, which can make it difficult for people to develop the skills and knowledge. This lack of access can make people feel hopeless, helpless and powerless, which can lead to the feelings of despair and a lack of self esteem. It can increase the possibility that people will be subjected to abuse, exploitation and discrimination, which can further erode their sense of self worth and dignity. The mental toll of poverty can be devastating and can trap people in a cycle of poverty and oppression that can be difficult to escape. Breaking this cycle requires addressing the root

causes of poverty and empowering people with the resources and support.

The roots of mental slavery are multifaceted and complex, depending upon the individual, culture and the historical identity in which it occurs. The main and common factors which contribute to mental slavery are:

Systematic oppression it leads to the effect of mental slavery in which one group holds power and controls over another. It can have many forms like socio-economic and political etc and this can create a sense of powerlessness and even helplessness sometimes.

Mental slavery can also be the result of socialization oppression, in which we are bound to certain

beliefs, values and even behaviors that are enforced on us through social norms.

Trauma and fear: Trauma and fear can be also part of mental slavery, mostly when the situations, arise the individuals feel powerless. Trauma can lead to disempowerment and fear can lead a desire for safety and security which can be exploited by those who are in power or higher ups.

Psychological factor mental slavery can also be influenced by psychological factors, such as low self-esteem, lack of self awareness, fear of uncertainty. These factors can lead to difficult for any individual to break the chains of slavery system and beliefs, even can lead to the sense of discomfort or resignation as per the circumstances.

The world which prides towards the progress, it is unsettling to confront the hidden reality of modern day slavery. We can't turn blind eye on the sufferings facing countless individuals. Need of hour, is the collective Consciousness to break this chain of mess for the betterment of tomorrow.

The author is a columnist and freelance writer

In which a person gets exploited by trafficker which leads to the deterioration of individuals well being. International Labour Organization (ILO) reported 4.5 million victims of forced sexual exploitation and is increasing at an alarming rate. Elements of modern slavery are child slavery, forced criminality, domestic servitude, sexual exploitation, forced labour, forced marriage and sex trafficking. It is being told that the most common form of modern slavery is forced labour and forced marriages. Roughly 49.6 million live in modern slavery out of which 22 million people are in forced marriage

NOT ONLY ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, SKILL OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IS ALSO IMPORTANT



Vijay Garg

It's true that the technical skills that helped secure your first promotion may no longer be as effective for your subsequent promotions. If you want leadership, you have to understand emotional intelligence and use it efficiently in your work. Emotional intelligence is one of this year's most important soft skills in the world of work. Let us tell you that in fact, 71 percent of employers consider technical skills while evaluating candidates.

Give more importance to emotional intelligence, essential for your bonding. This is a soft skill that establishes you as a reliable employee in the office. Because of this, they can handle stress better, communicate effectively and are more likely to seek natural support from others in solving problems. Let us understand the presence of emotional quotient or emotional intelligence with some examples: For example, after leaving a small town, you reach your first job in the office, everyone there speaks fluent English.

There is a lot of work going on there.



You become nervous in your mind. But instead of running away on the very first day, they decide to try themselves. Let's focus on the reasons why we are feeling nervous. Plan to learn essential skills by talking to people. Example 2: Your client is getting angry with you on the phone call. Although it is not your fault. In such a situation, you will decide to listen to his side completely. Will apologize and seek permission to call him again after checking the facts. This is a matter of emotional

intelligence.

In the first example, instead of looking for shortcomings in the office, the employee decided to do a self-assessment. In the second example, the distress felt by being in the client's situation was anticipated and treated appropriately. That is, emotional intelligence is a soft skill related to the ability to recognize, understand and control one's own and others' emotions. There are clearly three elements involved. Understand the three 'S' Mindfulness -

being self-aware, so as to recognize how your feelings or behavior are affecting others.

Empathy is the ability to recognize and understand the wants, needs, and perspectives of the people around you. Connection The ability to connect with others. Because people like to be in touch with people who have good social skills and thus better networking happens. test yourself like this This skill can be developed easily. Start thinking something like this. # Give the

right perspective to your reactions in the office: Put yourself in the shoes of others and be accepting of any new perspective. see if you Do you focus more on your achievements in office? Right Attitude Humility is a good skill.

This does not mean being shy, but it means that you understand very well the work you did and are completely confident about its results. That's why you don't need a protective shield of your achievements. Do you have the perspective to see your shortcomings? Right attitude: Pointing the finger at oneself is the beginning of self-improvement. Do try to see the shortcomings in yourself with courage. How do you react under stress? Associate Attitude: Being in control and remaining calm is especially valued in the working world. Develop like this. Record your voice and hear what effect it produces. Watch your body language in an office meeting or by recording a video of your conversation with a colleague.

Practice understanding others' body language. Start noticing the points that trigger you and practice not being influenced by them. Before speaking in any meeting, assess the atmosphere and mood of the people present. Try to understand. Practice active listening, that is, do not interrupt the conversation. If you encounter opposition, focus on solutions instead of blaming. In your career, you may have to work among people of different cultures. Therefore, avoid things like trolling, roasting on social media and seek professional help.

Vijay Garg Retired Principal Educational Columnist Malout Punjab

Congress Planned Religious Census In Armed Forces: Minister's Big Charge

HT News Network

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday said previous Congress governments at the Centre tried to create a division in the country's armed forces by recommending a 'religious census'. This comes amid the furore around wealth redistribution, an idea Rahul Gandhi allegedly said would be followed up on and implemented if his party was voted to power.

Addressing an election campaign at Vishakhapatnam on Wednesday, the Union Defence Minister said, "The Sachar Committee, which was formed by the Congress government, recommended a religion-based census in the armed forces in 2006. The Congress, in its manifesto (for the ongoing Lok Sabha elections), has also hinted at a reservation for religious minorities if they are elected. If they introduce reservations for religious minorities and extend the idea to the armed forces, it wouldn't bode well for the country's unity and integrity of the country."

"What worries me more is that whatever the Congress has put in its manifesto in the name of minority welfare has echoes of the ideas and recommendations in the



Sachar Committee report," the Union Defence Minister said. In a scathing attack on the Congress over its 'appeasement' politics, he said the grand old party was trying to introduce a 'religion-based reservation' through the back door, adding that appeasement shows the 'real face' of the Congress. "The Congress, through its manifesto, was subtly trying to bring back the idea of reservation on grounds of religion into the political and electoral discourse. However, PM Modi exposed their face because of which he is facing such

brickbats from the Congress," Rajnath Singh added. "The promises that the Congress has made in its manifesto stand to divide our society. Sections 3 and 6, under the Minorities Chapter in their manifesto, bare their real intentions. This is a party that divided the country on religious lines and has appeasement in its DNA," the Union Defence Minister stated further. The 'Rangnath Mishra Commission' and 'Sachar Commission' were put together under the previous Congress-led UPA at the Centre,

with the sole purpose of according a special treatment to a particular community in the name of minority welfare, the Union Minister said. "I remember when (former) Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said minorities, especially Muslims, have the first right to the country's resources. And when Modi-ji reminded the Congress of the statement by the former PM, they got furious," Rajnath Singh added. The previous Congress government in undivided Andhra Pradesh set up a 'communal laboratory' by giving reservations to Muslims in government jobs, Rajnath Singh alleged, adding that it amounted to a blatant disregard of the ideas enshrined in the Constitution. "From 2004 to 2014, the Congress government made five attempts to introduce Muslim reservation but the Supreme Court and the laws of land prevented them from advancing their agenda," he added. On the chief of Congress' overseas chapter, Sam Pitroda calling for discussions on the introduction of an 'inheritance tax' in the country on the lines of the US, the Union Defence Minister said the grand old party should clarify whether it wants to impose such a levy.

"Vote Us Or Not, At Least Come To My Funeral If..": Congress Chief's Appeal

HT News Network



Kalaburagi, Karnataka: Seeking to strike an emotional chord with the people of his home district of Kalaburagi, Congress President M Mallikarjun Kharge today appealed to them to at least attend his funeral if they thought he worked for them even though they do not wish to vote for the party candidate here in the coming Lok Sabha elections.

Speaking at a poll rally at Afzalpur in this district, the 81-year-old also said that if they (people) did not vote for the Congress candidate, he would think that he did not have "any place" in Kalaburagi anymore. The Congress has fielded Kharge's son-in-law Radhakrishna Doddamani from Kalaburagi, against BJP's sitting MP Umesh Jadhav. "If you miss your vote this time (if you don't vote for the Congress candidate), I will think that I don't have any place here for me and I could not win your heart,"

said Mr Kharge, who won the Lok Sabha elections here in 2009 and 2014, but lost in 2019. "Whether you vote for us (Congress) or not, but at least come to my funeral if you think that I have done for Kalaburagi," the Congress chief said. He also said that he would continue in politics till his last breath to "defeat" the BJP and RSS ideology. "I am born for politics. Whether or not I will contest the election, I will strive till my last breath to save the Constitution and democracy of this country. I will not retire from poli-

tics," Mr Kharge asserted. Explaining further, he said retirement happens from a position but one should not retire from his/her principles. "I am born to defeat the ideology of the BJP and RSS and not to surrender before them." He also advised Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who shared the dais with him, to follow his principles. "I tell Siddaramaiah repeatedly that you may retire as CM or MLA, but you cannot retire from politics till you defeat the ideology of the BJP and RSS."

Sunetra Pawar, Wife Of Ajit Pawar, Gets Clean Chit In Rs 25,000-Crore 'Scam'

HT News Network

Mumbai: In a reprieve for Sunetra Pawar, wife of Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar and NDA candidate for the Baramati Lok Sabha seat, the Mumbai Police has given her a clean chit in an alleged 25,000-crore cooperative bank scam. In a closure report filed in January - details of which have now emerged - the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Mumbai Police, which is investigating the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank (MSCB) case, has said that no criminal offence is made out in the transactions allegedly linked to Ms Pawar and her husband. Ms Pawar will be contesting from the Baramati seat, a bastion of Sharad Pawar, against his daughter Supriya Sule, who is also her sister-in-law.



faction) and taken oath as a Maharashtra deputy chief minister after breaking the NCP, formed by his uncle Sharad Pawar, last year.

The filing of the report has given more ammunition to the opposition, which has consistently accused the BJP of using central agencies and police forces against leaders opposed to it and either going slow on the investigation or giving them a clean chit as soon as they align with the saffron party. The opposition parties call this the BJP's "washing machine".

The EOW's closure report states that the bank did not suffer any loss in the process of sanctioning loans to, or the sale of, the Jarandeshwar Sugar Mill, which is linked to Ajit Pawar.

It said that Sunetra Pawar had resigned from the post of director of Jai Agrotech in 2008 and, two years later, the company gave 20.25 crore to Jarandeshwar Sugar Mill. The mill was then bought by a firm called Guru Commodity in an auction for 65.75 crore but given on lease again to a company in which relatives of Ajit Pawar, including Rajendra Ghadge, were directors.

Ajit Pawar had joined the ruling alliance of the BJP and the Shiv Sena (Eknath Shinde

Samajwadi Party Chief Akhilesh Yadav To Contest Lok Sabha Polls From UP's Kannauj

HT News Network

Lucknow: Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav will contest the 2024 Lok Sabha election from Uttar Pradesh's Kannauj - the seat that sent him to Parliament thrice and also voted for his wife, Dimple Yadav, and Mulayam Singh Yadav, the late SP patriarch - his party said Wednesday in a post on X.



Mr Yadav, a former UP Chief Minister, will file his papers at noon tomorrow, the SP said. He also won the Azamgarh seat in 2019, but quit after he was elected to the UP Assembly from Karhal in 2022.

Speculation the SP leader will return to the Lok Sabha battlefield had been doing the rounds. Earlier today SP leader Ram Gopal Yadav was quoted as saying the decision had been taken.

Mr Yadav's proverbial homecoming will mean SP leader Tej Pratap Singh Yadav, who was named as the candidate earlier this week - will not contest. Tej Pratap Yadav is Akhilesh

Yadav's nephew; he is the grandson of Mulayam Yadav's brother Ranveer, and won the Mainpuri seat in the 2014 election.

Sources said the switch was the result of discontent among SP workers on the ground, who were keen that the party boss contest the family seat. Mr Yadav had originally opted against contesting this election since he wanted time to plan the overall strategy.

Kannauj was a Samajwadi Party stronghold till the BJP's Subrat Pathak won it - by fewer than 14,000 votes - in 2019. The seat was won

by Akhilesh Yadav's wife in a bypoll in 2012. She retained it in the 2014 election, but lost it to Mr Pathak five years later. Mrs Yadav was later fielded from Mainpuri in the 2022 bypoll due to the death of Mulayam Singh Yadav. She won by nearly three lakh votes.

She has been re-nominated from the Mainpuri seat. Akhilesh Yadav won the seat in the 2000 bypoll and retained it in the 2004 and 2009 general elections, winning by more than three lakh and 2.5 lakh votes respectively. The SP is allied with the Congress-led INDIA bloc in this election. It is contesting the lion's share - 63 - of UP's 80 Lok Sabha seats. The other 17 have been allotted to the Congress.

This includes that party's bastion of Raebareilly and Amethi, for which candidates have yet to be named amid buzz that Priyanka Gandhi Vadra could make her poll debut in the latter and Rahul Gandhi could return for a third match-up with the BJP's Smriti Irani in the former.

"We Can't Control Polls": Supreme Court To Prashant Bhushan In VVPAT Case

HT News Network

New Delhi: The Supreme Court today said it is not the controlling authority for elections and cannot dictate the functioning of Election Commission, a constitutional authority. The remarks came during the hearing on petitions seeking thorough cross-verification of votes cast on Electronic Voting Machines (EVM) with paper slips generated through the VVPAT system. The court has reserved the judgment for now.



The bench of Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Dipankar Datta questioned if it can act on mere suspicion.

Responding to concerns raised by Advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing for petitioner Association for Democratic Reforms, the court said, "If you are predisposed about a thought-process, then we cannot help you... we are not here to change your thought process."

Amid the Opposition's apprehensions regarding the EVM voting system, the petitions seek a direction to cross-verify every vote cast on EVMs with the paper slips generated by the VVPAT system. Currently, this cross-verification is done for five randomly selected EVMs in every Assembly constituency.

In the earlier hearings, the petitioners raised the issue of public trust and drew comparisons with European countries that have gone back to the ballot voting system. The court shot down such comparisons, observing that the challenges here are different. The Election Commission, on its part, stressed that the current system is foolproof.

An EVM has a control unit and a balloting unit. These are connected by a cable. These are also connected with a

VVPAT -- Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail -- machine. This machine enables a voter to see if the vote was cast properly and went to the candidate he/she supports. As proceedings began this morning, the court sought some clarifications from the poll body about microcontrollers in the system and if they can be re-programmed. The Election Commission responded that all three units have their own microcontrollers and these can be programmed only once. Mr Bhushan contended that these microcontrollers have a flash memory that is re-programmable. "To say that it is not re-programmable is incorrect," he said. The court said it has to trust the poll body's technical report. "They are saying quantum of flash memory is very low. They can store 1024 symbols, not software. They say that as far as microcontrollers in the CU (control unit) is concerned, it is agnostic. It does not recognise the party or symbol, it knows the buttons," Justice Khanna said.

When Mr Bhushan wondered if it is possible to load a malicious program in the flash memory, the court remarked, "Can we issue a mandamus on the basis of a suspicion? We are not the controlling authority of another constitutional authority, we cannot control the elections."

Nitin Gadkari Faints During Rally In Maharashtra: "Due To Heat, Fine Now"

HT News Network

Mumbai: Union Minister Nitin Gadkari fainted while speaking at an election rally in Maharashtra's Yavatmal on Tuesday afternoon. Fortunately, the senior Bharatiya Janata Party leader received prompt treatment and was able, after a brief pause, to get back up on stage and continue his speech.

Shortly after completing his speech, Mr Gadkari posted on X (formerly Twitter).

"I felt discomfort due to the heat at the rally in Pusad, Maharashtra. But now I am completely healthy, and am leaving for Nagpur to attend the next meeting. Thank you for your love and good wishes." A disturbing video of the incident - which was unfortunately streamed live on X (formerly Twitter), including by his own account - showed Nitin Gadkari being carried away by those on stage, many of whom rushed to form a shield around the BJP leader to give him, and those treating him, some privacy. Mr Gadkari - who fought the first phase of the Lok Sabha election as the candidate from Nagpur, a seat he won in 2014 and 2019 - was campaigning for Rajashree Patil, who is from Chief Minister Eknath Shinde's faction of the Shiv Sena and is the ruling Mahayuti alliance's pick for Yavatmal-Washim.

There was speculation about the political future of Mr Gadkari earlier this year, after the BJP delayed naming him as its Nagpur Lok Sabha candidate. That delay even led to a cheeky invitation from former Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray; he extended a 'join us' message to Mr Gadkari.

"I had told Gadkari this two days ago, and I am repeating it again. If you are being insulted, leave the BJP and join the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA), which is an alliance of Congress and the formerly undivided Shiv Sena and Nationalist Congress Party, led by Mr Thackeray and Sharad Pawar."

"We will ensure your victory. We will make you a minister when our government comes to power, and it will be a post with powers," Uddhav Thackeray declared. The BJP, it seems, heard and responded. Days later Mr Gadkari was named in the party's list.

Campaigning Ends For Second Phase Of 2024 Lok Sabha Elections In 88 Seats

HT News Network

New Delhi: The high-octane campaigning for the second phase of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections came to an end on Wednesday evening with top leaders of the BJP-led NDA and the opposition INDIA bloc making a last-gasp effort to woo voters.



The end of the campaigning marks the commencement of a 48-hour silece period.

The second phase which is scheduled for April 26, will witness polling in 88 constituencies across 12 states and Union Territories, along with the remaining part of the Outer Manipur Lok Sabha constituency.

1206 candidates from 12 States and UTs along with 4 candidates from the Outer Manipur Parliamentary constituency will contest elections in phase 2 of the Lok Sabha Elections, the Election Commission of India said.

As per the poll commission, a total of 2633 nomi-

nations were filed for 88 parliamentary constituencies across 12 States and UTs going for polls in phase 2 for the Lok Sabha Elections. The last date for filing nominations for phase 2 for all 12 States and UTs was April 4. After the scrutiny of 2633 nominations filed, 1428 nominations were found to be valid. The last date for withdrawal of candidature for all 12 States and UTs was April 8.

In phase 2, Kerala has a maximum of 500 nominations from 20 parliamentary constituencies, followed by 491 nominations from 14 PCs in Karnataka. A minimum of 14 nominations were received from

the parliamentary constituency in Tripura. 16-Nanded Parliamentary Constituency in Maharashtra received a maximum of 92 nominations. The first phase of the polling covered 102 constituencies of 21 states and union territories (UTs). Ten states and UTs were fully covered, while 11 states and UTs were partially covered. As the high-decibel campaigns for the Lok Sabha polls kick off, promises and guarantees by various political parties took place. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the "Modi Ki Guarantee" as the central theme of his campaign.

Blinken due in China to exert pressure but also seek stability

■ HT News Network

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken was due in China on Wednesday, as the United States ramps up pressure on its rival over its support for Russia while also seeking to manage tensions with Beijing.

The US diplomat will meet China's top brass on Friday in Beijing, where he is also expected to plead for restraint as Taiwan inaugurates a new leader, and to raise US concerns on Chinese trade practices — a vital issue for President Joe Biden in an election year.

But Blinken is also seeking to stabilise ties, with tensions between the world's two largest economies palpably easing since his last visit in June.

At the time, he was the highest-ranking US official to visit China in five years, and the trip was followed by a meeting between the countries' presidents in November. At that summit in California, Chinese President Xi Jinping agreed to a US wish list including restoring contact between militaries and cracking down on precursor chemicals to fentanyl, the powerful painkiller behind an addiction epidemic in the United States. Blinken will start his visit on Wednesday in Shanghai.



While in the city, he will meet students and business leaders in what an aide called a bid to highlight warm ties between the American and Chinese peoples. The friendly side trip — the first visit by a US secretary of state to the bustling metropolis since Hillary Clinton in 2010 — would have been unthinkable until recently, with hawks on both sides previously speaking of a new Cold War between the two powers. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen similarly toured the manufacturing hub of Guangzhou before visiting Beijing earlier this month. A

senior US official previewing Blinken's trip said that the United States and China were at a "different place than we were a year ago, when the bilateral relationship was at an historic low point." "We also believe, and we have also clearly demonstrated, that responsibly managing competition does not mean we will pull back from measures to protect US national interests," he said. The Biden administration's eagerness to engage China stands in stark contrast to its efforts to isolate Russia since its invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. After initially being pleased that Beijing has not directly supplied weapons to Russia, the United States in recent weeks has accused China of lavishing industrial material and technology on Moscow. Washington has encouraged European leaders, including German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, who recently visited Beijing, to stand firm on China not backing Russia, believing that it wants stable ties with the West as it focuses on addressing economic headwinds at home. "If China purports on the one hand to want good relations with Europe and other countries, it can't on the other hand be fuelling what is the biggest threat to European security since the end of the Cold War," Blinken said Friday after Group of Seven talks in Capri, Italy.

Musk lashes out at Australian order demanding X remove stabbing videos

■ HT News Network

SYDNEY: Elon Musk on Tuesday vowed to challenge Australian demands that his social media platform X take down videos of a recent Sydney church stabbing.

Australia's Federal Court on Monday gave the platform 24 hours to remove videos of an Assyrian bishop being slashed in the head during a recent attack. Australia's eSafety Commission had sought the court injunction saying X ignored earlier removal notices.

Musk lashed out at the watchdog on Tuesday, saying the content had already been removed for users in Australia.

"We have already censored the content in question for Australia, pending legal appeal, and it is stored only on servers in the USA." As the deadline approached, the videos were not available to users in Australia, except for those using a VPN or other location-masking service. Musk claimed Australia was trying to enforce a global ban.

"Our concern is that if ANY country is allowed to censor content for ALL countries, which is what the Australian 'eSafety Commissar' is demanding, then what is to stop any country from controlling the entire Internet," the billionaire posted on X.

"Absolutely disgusting" The matter will return to court this week, where a judge will decide whether to extend the interim injunction. A third hearing will follow where eSafety Commission lawyers will seek a permanent injunction and civil penalties against X, a spokesperson said. Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese lashed out at Musk, who he described as an "arrogant billionaire" who "thinks he's above the law."

"The idea that someone would go to court for the right to put up violent content on a platform shows how out-of-touch Mr Musk is," Albanese told public broadcaster ABC.

Tasmanian senator Jacqui Lambie called for Musk to be thrown in prison, saying he had "no conscience" and his behaviour was "absolutely disgusting." "Quite frankly the bloke should be jailed," she said.

"Toxicity and hate" Bishop Mar Mari Emmanuel was allegedly slashed in the head and chest by a 16-year-old suspect last week, sparking a riot by followers of the Assyrian Christian church in western Sydney.

Video of the bloody attack, which spread widely on social media platforms, has been blamed by Australian authorities for feeding tensions in the community. Many of Sydney's small Assyrian community fled persecution and war in Iraq and Syria.

Russian court rejects fresh appeal by WSJ reporter

■ HT News Network

MOSCOW: A Russian court on Tuesday rejected the latest in a series of appeals by Wall Street Journal reporter Evan Gershkovich against his pre-trial detention on charges of espionage.

Gershkovich, 32, became the first US journalist arrested on spying charges in Russia since the Cold War when he was detained by the Federal Security Service (FSB) on March 29, 2023. He, his newspaper and the US government all deny he is a spy.

No date has yet been set for his trial, though his detention was extended last month to June 30 in a hearing that was closed to the press.

On Tuesday, however, journalists were allowed to film Gershkovich as he stood in a glass box in the courtroom and waved at media colleagues.

The WSJ reported that Gershkovich replied "all clear" when asked by the judge whether he understood the court's decision.

"It continues to be outrageous that Evan has been wrongfully detained by the Russian government for more than a year," the newspaper stated, urging the Biden administration to do everything in their power to secure his release.

Gershkovich, who was accredited by the Russian Foreign Ministry to work in Russia as a journalist, was arrested during a trip to the Urals city of Yekaterinburg.

He has been held for over a year at Moscow's high-security Lefortovo prison. The US has accused Russia of using him for the purpose of "hostage diplomacy."

"We will continue to denounce and impose costs for Russia's appalling attempts to use Americans as bargaining chips," President Joe Biden said last month on the anniversary of Gershkovich's arrest.

10 killed as two Malaysian military choppers collide

■ HT News Network

KUALA LUMPUR: Two Malaysian military helicopters collided and crashed during a training session on Tuesday, killing all 10 crew onboard, the country's rescue agency said.

Footage shared online showed several helicopters flying low in formation over the Lumut naval base, located about 160km from Kuala Lumpur, while participating in a fly-past rehearsal ahead of Naval Day celebrations in May.

One chopper was seen clipping the rear rotor of another, causing both to go into a tailspin and crash. "The two helicopters collided during flight training," said Suhaimy Mohamad Suhail, senior operations commander from the fire and rescue department, adding that all 10 crew members on board were confirmed dead by medical officers.

The two aircraft involved were a Eurocopter AS555SN Fennec and an AgustaWestland AW139, the rescue agency said.

Iran, Pakistan agree to 'expeditiously finalise' free trade agreement: joint statement

■ HT News Network

Tehran and Islamabad agreed to "expeditiously finalise" a Free Trade Agreement (FTA), a joint statement said on Wednesday as Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi concluded his three-day official visit to Pakistan. According to a joint statement issued by Iran and Pakistan, "both sides agreed to expeditiously finalise the FTA and hold the next sessions of annual Bilateral Political Consultations (BPC) and Joint Business Trade Committee (JBTC) as well as the 22nd round of the negotiations of the Joint Economic Commission (JEC) in the near future".

Last month, Iranian Ambassador Dr Reza Amiri Moghadam had said the FTA would increase mutual trade, highlighting the need to have strong air, maritime and sea links. The joint statement recalled the exchanges and meetings during Raisi's visit to Pakistan, saying that both sides "reviewed the entire spectrum of Pakistan-Iran bilateral relations". Both neighbours also agreed to "enhance mutual interaction through regular exchange of high-level



visits", it added. Pakistan and Iran also agreed to facilitate a regular exchange of economic and technical experts, as well as delegations from Chambers of Commerce from both countries to intensify economic cooperation. The declaration of the Reemdan border point as an international border crossing point under the TIR Convention and the opening of the remaining two border sustenance markets was also agreed upon, the statement said. It added that both countries "affirmed their commitment to transform their common border from 'border of peace' to a 'border of prosperity' through joint development-oriented economic projects, including setting up of joint border markets, economic free zones.

Boat disasters in Africa, Europe leave 43 dead

■ HT News Network

NAIROBI/WIMEREUX: Twenty-one migrants died on Tuesday in boat disasters off the coast of the Horn of Africa and trying to cross the English Channel from France to Britain. Bodies of 22 people were found off the coast of the Tunisian port city of Sfax in recent days.

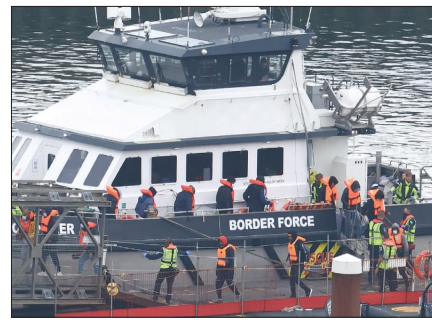
According to the UN's migration agency, at least 16 people are dead and 28 missing in a new migrant boat disaster off the coast of the Horn of Africa nation of Djibouti.

It was the second fatal maritime accident on the perilous so-called Eastern Migration Route from Africa to the Middle East in as many weeks.

Another vessel carrying mainly Ethiopian migrants sank in the same area off the Djibouti coast on April 8, claiming the lives of several dozen people.

Boat capsizes off Djibouti leaving 16 dead, bodies of 22 found along Tunisian coast and five drown while trying to reach English shores

"Tragedy as boat capsizes off Djibouti coast with 77 migrants on board including children," the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) said in a post on X,



formerly Twitter. "At least 28 missing, 16 dead," it said, adding that the local IOM branch was "supporting local authorities with search and rescue effort".

Yvonne Ndege, a spokeswoman for the agency, said in Nairobi that the 16 fatalities included children and a baby, without offering further details.

Tunisian coast tragedy The bodies of 22 people presumed to be sub-Saharan migrants were found off the coast of the Tunisian port city of Sfax in recent days, a court spokesperson said on Tuesday.

"Twenty-two bodies were discovered in the Sidi Youssef port (off the coast of Sfax) since Saturday," Hichem Ben Ayed, spokesman for the Sfax court, said.

Israel Says Forces Carrying Out "Offensive Action" Across Southern Lebanon

■ HT News Network

Jerusalem: Israeli forces are carrying out "offensive action" across southern Lebanon, Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said Wednesday without specifying whether ground troops had crossed the border.

"Many forces are deployed on the border and IDF (army) forces are carrying out offensive action currently throughout southern Lebanon," Gallant said in a statement, also claiming that "half of Hezbollah's commanders in southern Lebanon have been eliminated" in months of violence.

"The other half are in hiding and abandoning the field to IDF operations," he added without giving a specific number.

In a separate statement, the army



said it had struck 40 Hezbollah targets in southern Lebanon.

"A short while ago, IDF (army) fighter jets and artillery struck approximately 40 Hezbollah terror targets" around Aita al-Shaab in southern Lebanon, including storage facilities and weaponry, it said. The army said Hezbollah "has established dozens of terror means and infrastructures in the area" to attack Israel. Lebanon's state-run National News Agency said Israel had carried out more than 13 strikes near Aita

al-Shaab and surrounding villages.

"Israeli warplanes carried out ... more than 13 air strikes targeting the outskirts of the towns of Aita al-Shaab, Ramya, Jabal Balat and Khallet Warda," it said. The strikes came after Hezbollah said it fired a fresh barrage of rockets across the border on Wednesday after a strike blamed on Israel killed two civilians.

The group had already fired rockets at northern Israel late on Tuesday "in response" to the civilian deaths. Cross-border exchanges of fire have flared between the Israeli army and Iran-backed Hezbollah since Hamas's October 7 attack on Israel triggered war in Gaza.

Since October 7, at least 380 people have been killed in Lebanon, mostly Hezbollah fighters but also 72 civilians, according to an AFP tally.

Bill to ban TikTok in US clears Congress

■ HT News Network

The United States Senate on Tuesday approved legislation requiring the popular social media app TikTok to divest from its Chinese parent company ByteDance or be shut out of the US market. The measure was part of a \$95 billion foreign aid package, including military assistance to Ukraine, Israel and Taiwan, which has now cleared Congress and heads to President Joe Biden's desk.

US and other Western officials have voiced alarm over the popularity of TikTok with young people, alleging it allows Beijing to collect data and spy on users. It has 170 million users in the United States alone.

These critics also say TikTok is subservient to Beijing and a conduit to spread propaganda. China and the company strongly deny these claims.

The bill, which could trigger the rare step of barring a company from operating in the US market, passed the Senate by a 79-18 vote three days after it cleared the House of Representatives with strong bipartisan support.

Biden has stated he will sign the legislation. He reiterated his concerns about TikTok in a rare telephone conversation with Chinese President Xi Jinping early this month.

Fears grow for Rafah as Gaza crisis rages 200 days on

■ HT News Network

GAZA STRIP: The Israeli aggression entered its 200th day on Tuesday as aid groups warned that Israeli plans to invade the southern city of Rafah where most Gazans have taken refuge would create an "apocalyptic situation".

Fears have been rising that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will soon follow through on repeated threats to send troops into Rafah, where 1.5 million people have sought shelter, many in makeshift encampments.

"Everybody seems to be on a countdown to war across the largest displacement camp on Earth, which is Rafah," Norwegian Refugee Council chief Jan Egeland said.

Egeland warned that a ground assault on Rafah would be an "apocalyptic situation" and that humanitarian groups "are completely in the dark on how to mitigate this countdown to a catastrophe".



Norwegian Refugee Council warns a ground assault on largest displacement camp on Earth would be an 'apocalyptic situation'

Also on Tuesday, the United Nations rights office said it was "horrified" at reports of mass graves found at the Gaza Strip's two biggest hospitals after Israeli sieges and raids.

Israel has repeatedly targeted Gazan medical facilities during the war, accusing Hamas of using them as command centres and to hold hostages abducted on October 7. Hamas denies the accusation.

Gaza's Civil Defence agency said nearly 340 bodies were uncovered in the past three days of people killed and buried by Israeli forces at the Nasser Hospital in the southern city of Khan Yunis.

Israel's army responded by saying that claims it had buried Palestinian bodies were "baseless and unfounded", without directly addressing allegations that Israeli troops were behind the killings.

The army said that "corpses buried by Palestinians" had been examined by Israeli troops searching for hostages and then "returned to their place".

UN rights chief Volker Turk called for an "independent" probe into the deaths at Nasser and Gaza City's Al-Shifa hospitals, noting the "special protection" awarded to medical facilities under international law.

Lok Sabha Elections 2024: DEO Ganderbal discusses preparedness with Nodal Officers

HT News Network

GANDERBAL, APRIL 24: In preparation for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections, the District Election Officer (DEO) Ganderbal, Shyambir today conducted a detailed meeting with designated Nodal Officers to review and strengthen the district's election readiness.

During the meeting, Assistant Returning Officers (AROs) and Nodal Officers updated the DEO on the current status of preparations, including logistics, transportation of polling

staff and Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs), voter education, and facilities at polling stations. Specific focus was placed on manpower, training management, expenditure monitoring, and the arrangement at Dispatch and Reception centers, among others.

The DEO emphasized the importance of adhering strictly to the Election Commission of India's guidelines and took a first-hand appraisal of various critical aspects and activities necessary for the smooth conduct of the elections. He directed the Nodal Officer for AMF/CEO to ensure Assured Minimum Facilities at all polling



booths to accommodate electorates, polling staff, and security personnel effectively. A special focus was put on enhancing Systematic Voters' Educa-

tion and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) activities. The Nodal Officer for SVEEP was tasked with expanding outreach through collaboration with Self-Help Groups, ASHAs, and Anganwadi Workers to ensure ground-level communication is effective.

College HODs were urged to engage students and staff in innovative activities under the SVEEP to boost voter awareness and participation.

The DEO also instructed all officers to ensure that all logistical and operational plans are in place to facilitate electorates, polling staff and the security personnel deployed for electoral

duties on the Election Day.

He stressed the need for all designated Nodal officers to maintain close cooperation and coordination with executing departments to ensure a transparent and peaceful election.

The meeting saw the attendance of SSP Ganderbal, Sandeep Gupta; Additional District Development Commissioner, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani; Additional Deputy Commissioner, Gulzar Ahmad; Dy DEO, ACR, SDM Kangan, and other key district officers and officials, all committed to delivering a free and fair electoral process.

Lok Sabha Elections 2024 2nd Randomisation of polling staff held at Kulgam

Farooq Rather



KULGAM, APRIL 24: The second randomisation of polling staff for Lok Sabha General Elections, 2024 was today held at Kulgam.

This randomisation of polling staff was conducted under the supervision of General Election Observer, Jenu Devan for the 3-Anantnag-Rajouri Parliamentary Constituency and DEO Kulgam Athar Aamir Khan.

The Polling Parties for all the three constituencies (38-DH Pora, 39-Kulgam and 40-Devsar) of District Kulgam were formed and were allocated to Concerned Assistant Returning Officers.

Each Polling Party comprises a Presiding Officer and Three polling Officers. A total of 105 Polling Parties (Plus Reserve) were allocated to 105 Polling Stations for Assembly Segment 38-DH Pora, 132 Poll Parties (Plus Reserve) to 132 Polling Stations for Assembly segment 39-Kulgam and similarly 127 Poll parties (Plus Reserve) for Manning of 127 Polling Stations of 40-Devsar.

GDC Hajin organises awareness rally to promote election participation

HT News Network

BANDIPORA, APRIL 24: NSS Unit of GDC Hajin organised a rally from College campus to the main market of Hajin, in order to spread awareness about the Lok Sabha elections 2024. The rally organised under SVEEP initiative was flagged-off by Principal GDC Hajin, Professor (Dr.) Zahoor Ahmad. Addressing participants, the principal expressed his views about the values and importance of the Right to Vote for nation building and prosperity.

Dr. Mehrhaj Hajini, Head Department of Political Science also spoke on the occasion and highlighted the importance of vote. In the rally, NSS volunteers and students of the college displayed posters and placards depicting slogans related to the importance of voting for the future of our country. NSS Programme Officer, Dr. Firdous Ahmad; Adnan Rashid Lone, Dr. Falak Farooq; Prof. Javeed Ahmad Raina, Dr. Sajad Ahmad, Dr. Tabasum and Dr. Sajad Rashid of GDC Hajin besides a large number of the students and NSS Volunteers participated in the programme.

Lok Sabha Elections 2024 General, Police Observers for Anantnag-Rajouri PC visit Kulgam

Farooq Rather



KULGAM, APRIL 24: General Election Observer, Jenu Devan and Police Observer, Dr. B Naveen Kumar for the 3-Anantnag-Rajouri Parliamentary Constituency today made joint visit to Kulgam district and chaired a comprehensive review meeting with Nodal officers on Election preparedness at the Conference Hall Mini-Secretariat, here.

During the meeting, the District Election Officer (DEO) Kulgam, Athar Aamir Khan provided a detailed overview of the arrangements made for the elections scheduled on 7th May, 2024 in the district through a PowerPoint presentation.

Various aspects such as expenditure monitoring, functioning of the District Election Control Room,

Transport Plan, SVEEP activities, Security Plan, and other parameters of the District Election Management plan were discussed. It was highlighted that all logistical, material, manpower, and other necessary arrangements have been put in place to ensure the smooth conduct of elections in a free and fair manner in the district.

Concerned Nodal Officers apprised the Observers about their assignments and the arrangements

being made, especially regarding dispatch and distribution centers, security, training, and SVEEP activities.

A thorough review of security arrangements was taken and the SSP Kulgam, Sahil Sarangal provided insights into the measures taken for the smooth conduct of elections.

The Observers emphasized the importance of high voter turnout and incident-free elections, inquiring about previous

voter turnouts, voter participation, SVEEP activities, and security-related issues.

The Observers also visited polling stations located at D.H.Pora, overseeing arrangements and the availability of AMF.

In addition to the review meeting, observers visited Media Monitoring and Social Media Cell, Joint Election Control Room, and Collection/Distribution centers.

Detailed assessments were made regarding the arrangements for the safety, surveillance, and security of Election-related material and machinery.

The meeting was attended by DEO Athar Aamir Khan; SSP Kulgam, Sahil Sarangal; ADDC, Bashir Ahmad Wani; DPO, Abdul Rasheed; AROs, Nodal Officers and other concerned officials.

Kulgam Drug Control Deptt inspects CCTV installation, computerized billing

HT News Network



KULGAM, APRIL 24: 18 Surprise inspections were conducted in retail establishments of main market Kulgam by a team of Drug Control Officers headed by ADCs of Anantnag and Kulgam.

All 18 drug sale establishments were found to have installed CCTV cameras and adopted computerized billing, however one retail shop near Qazigund adda Kulgam was suspended on spot after proper show cause notice for failure to generate computerized invoices on spot and for improper storage conditions.

Also CCTV footage at several shops was checked. 03 Wholesale and 2 retail medicates were made to adopt a computerized billing system on spot.

Chemists around District Hospital Kulgam have already installed CCTVs and CBS who have given a written compliance report of Govt. Order with respect to CCTV and CBS. Other chemists were directed to maintain separate ledgers within the adopted gadget/computer for schedule H1 medicines and make a robust system of generating cash memos to all the patients.

Further, chemists who have installed CCTV cameras with low storage facility were directed to install DVR facility having storage of at least one month.

Firdous Baba Attends Eid Milan in Delhi Organized by Muslim Rashtriya Manch

HT News Network

New Delhi, April 24 (KNS): Firdous Baba, Chief of Kashmir Sewa Sangh, graced the Eid Milan 2024 event in Delhi, organized by the Muslim Rashtriya Manch (RSS) leader, Indresh Kumar Ji. This event was a vibrant celebration of unity and brotherhood, uniting people from various backgrounds to joyously commemorate Eid.

As per the statement issued here, Baba's presence at the gathering highlighted the crucial need for fostering harmonious relationships and bridging societal divides, echoing the values of inclusivity and togetherness that define the essence of Eid. In his address, Baba emphasized the significance of unity and collective progress, urging everyone to collaborate for the greater good of the nation.

Lok Sabha Elections 2024

GDC Pampore's Electoral Literacy Club conducts Polling Booth Mock Drill

HT News Network

PULWAMA, APRIL 24: As part of the ongoing Special Voter Enrollment and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) campaign, the Electoral Literacy Club of Government Degree College (GDC) Pampore today organized a vibrant 'Mock Drill of Polling Booth' with an aim to engage both staff and students in the electoral process.

The mock drill was held under the leadership of Principal Prof. Huda Galzai in the College Multipurpose Hall.

Convened by Prof. Arifat Jan, HOD of Political Science and the Club's Convenor, the Mock Drill exemplified the college's commitment to fostering electoral liter-



acy and civic engagement.

Prof. Manzoor Ahmad, HOD Economics and Club Member, enthusiastically demonstrated the voting process, empowering students with practical knowledge on participation in democratic elections.

The event witnessed an impressive turnout of students and faculty, underscoring the collective enthusiasm for electoral education and democratic values.

The District Election Officer (DEO) Dr. Basharat Qayoom extended appreciation to GDC Pampore for their proactive involvement in promoting the event. The event witnessed an impressive turnout of students and faculty, underscoring the collective enthusiasm for electoral education and democratic values.

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New Urine Test for Prostate Cancer May Help Reduce Unnecessary Biopsies

A prostate cancer biomarker test that utilizes 17 genetic markers has demonstrated a high degree of accuracy in screening for serious cancer.

The test also significantly reduced unnecessary biopsies for individuals with indolent, low-grade prostate cancer.

The results are exciting, but questions remain as to whether the test would perform in a more racially diverse population.

Researchers have identified 17 unique genetic markers that are overexpressed by high-grade prostate cancers, which can be screened for accurately using a urine test. Experts say the test can help doctors identify serious cancers while also reducing unnecessary biopsies.

Prostate cancers are graded according to a Gleason score. Trusted SourceThe higher the grade the more likely the cancer will spread quickly and grow.

This new test could potentially help with diagnosing and treating cancer earlier and with fewer invasive measures.

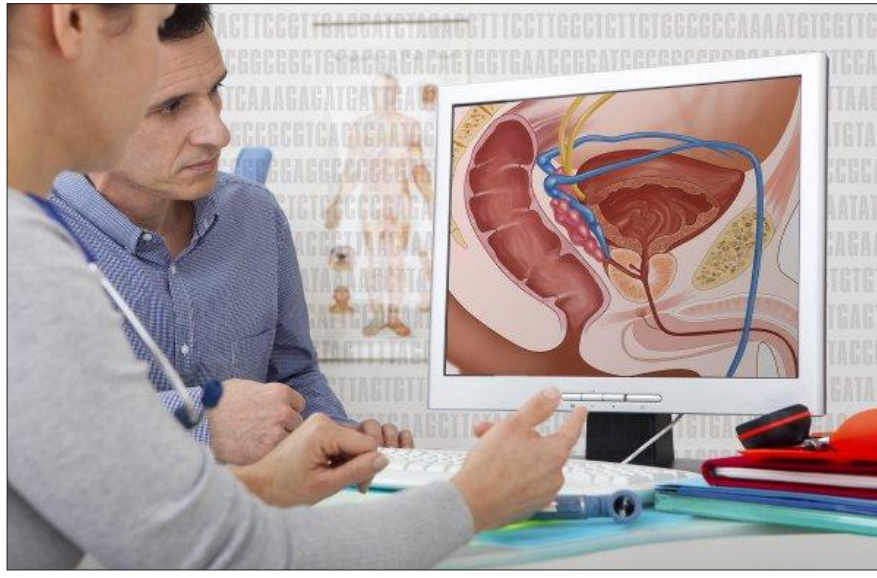
The health benefits of screening for prostate cancer with a standard prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood test have historically come with the tradeoff: the potential for unnecessary, invasive procedures, such as prostatectomy.

However, innovations in the realm of prostate cancer biomarker tests are helping to improve diagnostic accuracy alongside PSA testing.

The results of one such biomarker test, known as the MyProstateScore 2.0 (MPS2), which were published this month in JAMA Oncology Trusted Source, indicate that the test is highly accurate for detecting high-grade cancers.

Researchers found that the test had a 95% sensitivity for prostate cancer of grade group 2 or greater, and 99% for grade group 3 or greater.

"It does look impressive and exciting. I definitely think this is moving the field in the right direction, which will be help-



ful for patients in the long term," Geoffrey Sonn, MD, an Associate Professor of Urology at Stanford Medicine who wasn't affiliated with the research, told Healthline.

However, questions remain about whether the test could be accurately applied to a racially diverse population, a limitation that the authors acknowledge in the research.

Adam Murphy, MD, MBA, an Associate Professor of Urology at the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, called the research, "a good addition to the literature," but noted that there were clear limitations regarding race. Murphy wasn't affiliated with the research.

"It's hard to know how it performs in other ethnic minority groups," said Murphy. To develop the test, researchers sequenced nearly 60,000 genes, eventually identifying 54 markers of prostate cancer. They found 17 of these markers were further stratified to indicate high-grade cancer.

Research and guidelines on prostate cancer screening have increasingly

focused on identifying these high-grade cancers to help with early detection and treatment.

"Prostate cancer differs from many other cancers in that there's a subset of low-grade prostate cancers that really do not behave like cancer. They don't spread or metastasize, and thus they pose minimal risk of harm," Jeffrey Tosoian, MD, MPH, an Assistant Professor of Urology and Director of Translational Cancer Research at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, and lead author of the paper, told Healthline.

"We set out to improve upon existing tests through two mechanisms. One is that we identified markers that are specific for higher-grade cancers," Tosoian said. "The other was the breadth of markers. We were able to use newer technology that allows us to capture seventeen, plus a reference gene, so eighteen genes with a single test."

The study included 743 men with an average age of 62, and a PSA score of 5.6. The test had a 95% sensitivity among men who had a grade group 2 or greater cancer; this sensitivity improved to 99% in men

with a grade group 3 or greater cancer. In practical terms, that means the test accurately identified 95 out of 100 and 99 out of 100 incidences of cancer, depending on the grade of the cancer.

"Most cancers won't express all of these different markers. Most will only express a subset of them. And so by having more markers in a single test, it's likely to pick up more of the higher grade cancers that exist in the population," said Tosoian.

Reducing false positives for prostate cancer

Another major finding of the study was the expected number of unnecessary biopsies that utilizing the test avoided.

PSA testing is known to result in false positives Trusted Source, which can lead to anxiety and stress, so doctors have sought out other tests, such as biomarker tests, to improve accuracy. PSA is naturally secreted in the body, whether or not cancer is present, so an elevated PSA does not indicate cancer by itself. However, due to an elevated PSA level, a doctor might be inclined to order additional testing, including a biopsy.

"For a long time, someone would get a PSA blood test and if it was abnormal, they would just go straight to having a biopsy done of their prostate, which leads to lots and lots of procedures that are uncomfortable at best," said Sonn.

In the case of the MPS2 test, however, researchers found that utilization of the test could have reduced the rate of unnecessary biopsies by an estimated 35-42%. That is a significant improvement over other biomarker tests, which have been found to avoid between 15-30% of unnecessary biopsies.

"The aim would be that MPS2 can preserve the proven benefits of PSA screening in terms of early detection of high grade cancers that can be effectively treated, while significantly reducing the potential harms of false positive testing," said Tosoian.

NEWS

Does A High-Protein Diet Affect Your Bones?



Protein is an essential macronutrient that your body requires on a daily basis. It is the building block of the human body. Protein helps you maintain a healthy weight, keeps your muscles strong, reduces muscle loss, prevents injuries and more. High protein diets have gained huge popularity over the past few years. From building muscles to quick weight loss, many end up consuming more protein than required to achieve such goals. However, overconsumption of protein can negatively affect your health, especially your bones. If you are wondering how, read on to understand the impact of too much protein on your bones. Also, know tips to counter these side effects.

In an Instagram post, nutritionist Lovneet Batra explained the link between high-protein diets and bone health.

"High-protein diets that are low in fruits and vegetables can make your bones weak. High protein diets leave acidic ash in your body. To fight this acidity your body loses calcium from its bones," Batra explained in the video.

However, it does not mean that protein is not good for you. "But if you are on a high protein diet, you must consume enough fruits and vegetables throughout the day. Focus on consuming 2 servings of fruits and 5 servings of vegetables in a day," she added.

1. Alkalinizing effect:

The alkalinizing properties of fruits and vegetables help balance the body's pH levels. This can help eliminate the acidic effects of high-protein diets.

2. Nutrient density:

Protein alone cannot help build bones. You need other essential nutrients as well. Fruits and vegetables can help you receive calcium, vitamin K, vitamin C and magnesium for healthy bones.

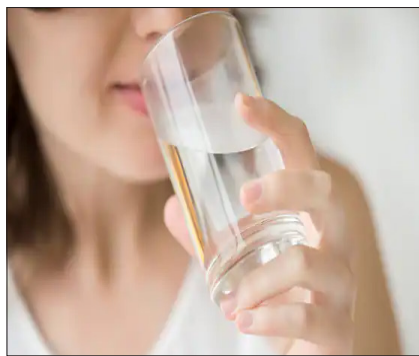
3. Fibre content:

High protein diets are usually low in fibre which can affect your digestive health. Therefore, adding enough fruits and vegetables that are high in dietary fibre can help ensure better digestion. Also, dietary fibre can aid in the absorption of calcium and other minerals crucial for bone health.

For healthy bones and overall well-being, it is essential to consume a well-balanced diet with all essential nutrients. Overconsumption of any nutrient can have many potential side effects.

Hypertension: How Dehydration Affects Your Blood Pressure

High blood pressure has become more common than ever. It silently increases the risk of serious heart conditions. From an unhealthy diet to a sedentary lifestyle, there are various factors that can contribute to unhealthy blood pressure numbers. Dehydration is quite common during the summer season. It can affect your overall health in more ways than one. Not many know that dehydration can negatively affect your blood pressure too. As you are more prone to dehydration during summer, it is essential to stay well-hydrated so that your blood pressure



remains intact. Keep reading to know the link between dehydration and high

blood pressure numbers. Dehydration and blood pressure: Know the link When you are dehydrated, your heart works harder to pump blood throughout the body. Additionally, medications for high blood pressure can cause dehydration. Dehydration can cause potentially dangerous changes in your blood pressure. Also, when you are dehydrated, your sodium levels rise which can make it harder to circulate blood.

On the other hand, extreme dehydration may cause low blood volume, leading to a drop in blood pressure. So, it can be concluded that drinking plenty of

water is crucial to keep blood pressure stable. Other tips to maintain healthy blood pressure during summers

Add potassium-rich summer foods to your diet such as watermelon, banana, muskmelon and pomegranate.

Limit your salt intake for overall well-being of your heart Exercise on a daily basis for healthy blood pressure Quit smoking and limit your alcohol intake High blood pressure is more dangerous than you think. It is crucial to monitor your blood pressure numbers on a regular basis. It will help you take steps to control it on time.

Nourish to Flourish: The Connection Between Diet And Physical Wellness

In this increasingly competitive world, we are constantly striving to be ahead of our contemporaries. Our lives are inarguably characterized by unceasing hustle and in the quest for 'survival of the fittest' we often ironically overlook prioritizing our health. As a result, maintaining a healthy lifestyle takes a backseat.

The timeless saying "you are what you eat" holds a profound truth that transcends generations. Nourishing our bodies with the right nutrients is not just confined to looking good on the outside; it's about fostering overall physical wellness and ensuring we flourish in every aspect of our lives.

A well-balanced diet constitutes the foundation of physical wellness. The food we consume acts as fuel for our bodies, influencing our energy levels, immune system, and overall vitality. A diet rich in essential nutrients provides the necessary building blocks for cellular repair, muscle development, and organ function. It is not just about keeping a close tab of calories in take but ensuring that the calories we consume are packed with the right combination of vitamins, minerals, proteins, carbohydrates, and fats required by our body.

To enhance the nourishment of our bodies, we need to assimilate a diverse and nutrient-rich diet. Fresh



fruits and vegetables, whole grains, lean proteins, and healthy fats ought to be an indispensable part of our meals. These foods deliver myriads of vitamins and minerals crucial for various bodily functions.

Consider incorporating colorful vegetables like spinach, carrots, and bell peppers into your daily meals. These foods are rich in antioxidants, which help combat oxidative stress and reduce the risk of chronic diseases. Whole grains such as quinoa, brown rice, and oats provide a steady source of energy, while lean proteins like chicken and fish contribute to muscle repair and maintenance.

Significance of Hydration In the pursuit of physical wellness, hydration often goes overlooked. Water is an integral component of our bodies, making up a considerable percentage of our tissues and organs. Staying sufficiently hydrated facilitates digestion, nutrient absorption,

and toxin elimination. It also helps regulate body temperature and keeps our skin looking vibrant.

We should aim to drink at least eight glasses of water a day, and more if we engage in intense physical activities. We can even take things up a notch by experimenting with infused water by adding slices of fruits like cucumber, lemon, or berries to make hydration a refreshing and enjoyable experience.

The gut plays a crucial role in our overall health, influencing everything from digestion to immune function. A diet rich in fiber, found in fruits, vegetables, and whole grains, promotes a healthy gut microbiome. Probiotics, found in yogurt, kefir, and fermented foods, further support gut health by introducing beneficial bacteria.

Maintaining a healthy gut contributes not only to improved digestion but also to enhanced nutrient absorption and a strengthened immune system.

Supplementation can play an essential role in maintaining optimal health and fitness, conducting to a balanced diet and active lifestyle. In today's fast-paced world, relying solely on food for all essential nutrients can be challenging. Supplements bridge nutritional gaps, ensuring the body receives crucial vitamins, minerals, and amino acids.

Everything You Wanted To Know About Using Massage For Weight Loss

While massage won't directly cause you to lose weight, it can aid your weight loss efforts by supporting workout recovery, decreasing stress, and improving your sleep.

Losing weight can be a daunting task — and you're not alone if the thought of extra hours in the gym makes you want to grab a pint of your favorite ice cream and settle onto the couch.

You can make weight loss easier and more fun with self-care techniques like massage.

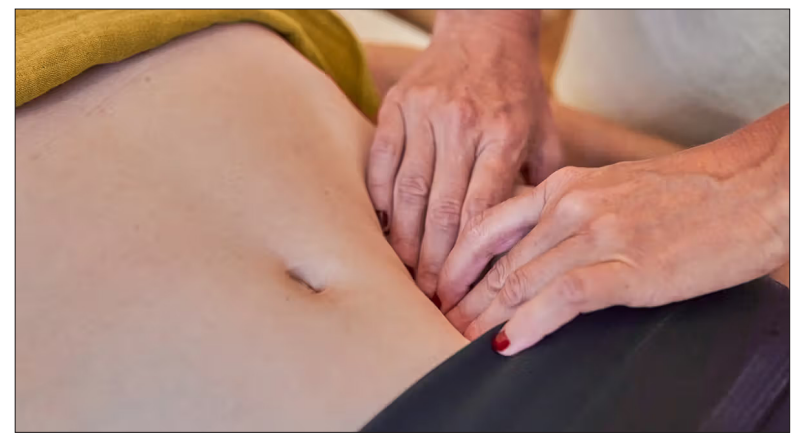
While massage won't cause you to lose weight, it can help in a number of ways. For example, massage can decrease your muscle pain and increase your flexibility, so you get the most out of your workouts.

Learn more about the different types of massage.

Massage alone won't shift the pounds, but scientists have found several ways that it may aid your weight loss efforts.

Improved post-workout recovery One way massage can assist weight loss is by supporting your recovery after workouts. If you haven't been exercising frequently or are increasing the intensity of your workouts, you may experience soreness or muscle pain after workouts.

Massage can reduce pain and decrease muscle fatigue Trusted Source, helping you stay on track



with your exercise plan and goals. Getting the most out of your workouts (and day)

Massage can also potentially increase Trusted Source your range of motion and flexibility, allowing you to get more out of your workouts.

As an added bonus, massage releases endorphins. This can feel invigorating Trusted Source, improving your mindset and helping you get off the couch or out of bed. You might find yourself moving your body more even if you don't head to the gym. Abdominal massage can decrease Trusted Source bloating, gas, and pain. This can affect how your tummy looks, and it can also help you feel more confident in your appearance. Research indicates Trusted Source that abdominal massage may decrease abdominal circumfer-

ence. This is likely a result of reduced bloating and water retention.

However, studies also showed Trusted Source that abdominal massage didn't cause people to eat less. You'll still need willpower and other tools to help with that!

Quality sleep Massage can relax your body and improve your sleep. Poor sleep is linked to a higher likelihood Trusted Source of obesity.

More research is still needed to understand all of the connections between weight and sleep, but by helping you get better rest, massage can definitely help you have more energy for exercising.

Potential benefits of massage improved blood circulation reduced stress, depression, and anxiety.



Rashid: 'Things change quickly... we have the mindset of champions'

England legspinner says 50-over failure in India is irrelevant to June's T20 World Cup

SYDNEY: Adil Rashid believes that England have "the mindset of champions" heading into June's T20 World Cup, and has said they have drawn a line under their failure to defend their 50-over crown in India late last year.

Rashid was ever-present at last year's World Cup in which England won only three of their nine group-stage games, two of which came after their elimination had been confirmed. The tournament marked the end of a cycle for their 50-over team but Rashid insisted that they should not read too deeply into those struggles ahead of their 20-over title defence.

"The 50 overs was a completely different format," Rashid

said. "We had a poor run or whatever. It is what it is. We didn't have the best tournament. We didn't play well: bat, ball, as a team, as a unit - everything. But I think this is a completely different format where currently we're world champions at that."

"We're confident. We've got the team, we've got the mindset, we've got the players, we've got the experience. If we go out there having the same belief, I think we'll - hopefully - go all the way. We don't look at it as 'we had a bad World Cup' because that's a completely different format. It's 50-over, that's not T20. We try not to mix both together."

"You have the mindset of champions... we are not think-

ing of what's gone on in the past; not thinking about a poor World Cup or people not [being] in form because things change very quickly when you go into a tournament or the first game comes. Prior to that, we may not be playing well but as soon as the tournament comes, people can turn up, teams can turn up and just switch on and win the World Cup."

Rashid's comments were echoed by Matthew Mott, England's white-ball coach, in a recent interview with the Times newspaper. "We are confident," Mott said. "I think we've got a good squad. It is going to come down to the team that reads the conditions best. I don't think there is any hangover from the

last World Cup. It's a different format and we are going out there to try to win it."

Mott also suggested that Jos Buttler will base his captaincy more on "gut feel" at the T20 World Cup than in previous years, with less reliance on planning and data. "We'll do our match-up beforehand, and he [Buttler] is armed with that," Mott said. "He takes that quite seriously, but he wants to be more spontaneous out on the field." Rashid believes that approach will enable England to play with more freedom. "Fifty overs is a lot longer game [than T20] with a lot more thinking, a lot more strategic things, a lot more planning involved," he said.

The good man Pattie and the scoundrel Cummins

He is leading an all-out attack on other members of the bowling tribe at IPL 2024 using his new team, Sunrisers Hyderabad

MUMBAI: Pat Cummins used to be a nice guy. There are many recorded instances of this. He is protective of the environment. And of his mates. He has written probably the coldest press release ever, which doesn't really add anything to this, except that he did it to shut down a bunch of larger-than-life-totally-above-reproach Aussie legends from going after the people in his care.

Ben Stokes, another saviour of our sweet, sometimes jingoistic game once lost himself in the face of crowd abuse and returned fire by picking on them for wearing glasses. Cummins stars in ads endorsing them. For large sums of money, obviously, but he could have used that movie star mug of his for any number of nefarious purposes. He could have brought the dab back. Instead, he stayed true to his hero arc that dates all the way back to 2011 when an 18-year-old him was too quick for Jacques Kallis.

A 19-, 20-, 21- and 22-year-old Cummins suffered through endless injuries, somehow getting stronger with each one until he returned a fully-formed, stress-tested, fast-bowling artiste. The lines he drew to connect the red ball in his hand to the tops of various offstumps that stood 22 yards away, supposedly under the protection of generationally gifted batters, could rival da Vinci himself.

It was all going so smoothly. No. 1-ranked bowler. Fur baby lover. World Cup winner. The only thing he had to do was stay the course. But no. He went and became captain of a T20 team for the first time ever, and that team just happens to be Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH), who have been waylaying every single bowler they have come across for the past two months. Does he not hear the cries? Does he not see the pain he is causing members of his own tribe?

"Remove this Impact Player rule, sir," Mohammed Siraj said, "Everyone is coming and hitting us."

Now, on the surface, this has nothing to do with Cummins or his SRH brethren. But remember there was no pushback about this rule when it was introduced last year. So what's different now? What has the Impact Player done this year that is so horrible? Well, he keeps shoring up batting line-ups, encouraging them to



be all kinds of extra. And who has been the most extra of all the extra batting line-ups in this IPL? A balls-per-boundary ratio of under 4. A run rate of over 11. The highest total in the tournament's history. And worst of all, a barely contained desire to go on and better it.

"[Our score] needs a three in front of it, does it now?" Travis Head joked immediately after SRH posted 287 for 3 against Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) on April 15. "It's proper batting. We've wanted to be exciting the whole time, and we've wanted to take the game on, and Pat and then Dan [Vettori, the coach] have put pressure on the batting line-up to make sure we try and maximise the powerplay and then keep going."

You see? He's egging them on and he's not even being polite about it. "I'll keep saying," Cummins mispronounced gloating there in a video that SRH put out on social media, "you'll hear from us every time. That's how we want to play. It's not going to work every game but I can tell you everyone's terrified when they come up against us and we're going to blow some teams out of the water."

Where did it all go wrong? How has he strayed so far? The pragmatist who kept fielders out on the boundary in the very first over of an Ashes series was now painting that same strategy as weakness just because he's the one with a batting line-up putting the fear of god into the opposition.

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 Radio Colony Gund Hassibhat
 Lawaipora Srinagar 190017

■ Prepress
 ■ Sheet Fed
 ■ Bindery
 ■ Finishing
 ■ Promotions

Our Printing Services

- Flyers
- Posters
- Business Cards
- Envelopes
- Brochures
- Booklets
- Catalogues
- Post Cards
- Presentation folders
- Letterheads
- Magazines
- Newsletters
- Raised printing
- Wedding Cards
- Invoices
- Note pad
- Forms
- Labels
- Scratch coupon
- Signs/Banners
- Pen/Caps
- T-Shirts
- Calendars
- Embroidery
- Door Hangers