

Top maoist leader among 29 killed in Chhattisgarh Encounter

AGENCY
NEW DELHI, APRIL 16

A top Maoist leader Shankar Rao was among 29 rebel fighter killed by security forces during an encounter in Chhattisgarh's Kanker district Tuesday, senior police officer Kalyan Elesela has told NDTV. The police have said they expect the number of dead Maoists to increase.

A huge quantity of weapons, including four Ak-47 assault rifles, were recovered. The Maoist leader shot dead - Rao - had a bounty of 25 lakh on his head, NDTV has been told.

Sources said the fighting began past 1:30 PM and is between a joint op

of the District Reserve Guard, which was set up in in 2008 to combat Maoist activities in the state, and the Border Security Force.

There was another encounter in the district last month, in which two



personnel - a Maoist and a cop - were killed, and security forces recovered a gun, some explosives, and other incriminating materials.

Personnel from the DRG and Bas-

Six dead, 3 missing as boat capsizes in Srinagar's Jhelum river

SRINAGAR: Six people died and three others were missing after a boat carrying nearly two dozen people, including school children, from Gandbal to Batwara, capsized in the Jhelum river here on Tuesday. The dead included a 35-year-old woman and her two school going twins. District Magistrate Srinagar Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat said they are ascertaining as to how many people were exactly onboard. "As far as initial input, 15 people were travelling in the boat, and out of them, seven were minors and the rest were adults. Since morning, we have fished out 12 people from the river, and six of them unfortunately died in the incident," Bhat told reporters near the tragedy site.

tar Fighters, both units of the state police force, with the Border Security Force, were involved in the operation, officials told news agency. The patrolling team was cordoning off a forested area when fired on indiscriminately, leading to the gun battle.

In February, three Maoists were killed in another encounter in Kanker.

In November last year, while the

state was voting in the first phase of an Assembly election, a gunfight broke out between security forces and Maoist rebels in the same district.

An Ak-47 rifle was recovered from the encounter site.

On the same day, while polling was taking place, Maoists fired at DRG personnel deployed near a polling station in Banda in Dantewada district.

AAP announces four LS candidates in Punjab, BJP fields Parampal Kaur from Bathinda

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 16

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) announced Lok Sabha candidates for the remaining four seats in Punjab. The party released the list on Tuesday.

The AAP has decided to field sitting MLAs in Gurdaspur, Ludhiana and Ferozepur. Mukatsar MLA Jagdeep Singh Kaka Brar will contest for Ferozepur, Batala MLA Amansher Singh Shery Kalsi from Gurdaspur Lok Sabha constituency, Ludhiana central MLA Ashok Parashar Pappu will be AAP's candidate for Ludhiana Lok Sabha and Pawan Kumar Tinu, who left Akali Dal to join the AAP few days ago, got ticket from Jalandhar.

In the previous two lists the party had already announced the nine Lok Sabha candidates. Five cabinet ministers of the AAP government are contesting elections in Punjab, Gurmeet Singh Meet



Hayer from Sangrur, Gurmeet Singh Khuddian from Bathinda, Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal from Amritsar, Laljit Singh Bhullar from Khadoor Sahib and Dr Balbir Singh from Patiala. AAP is fielding Raj Kumar Chabbewal from Hoshiarpur, Gurpreet Singh GP from Fatehgarh Sahib, Karamjit Singh Anmol from Faridkot and AAP Punjab chief spokesperson Malvinder Singh Kang from Anandpur Sahib Lok Sabha seat. Meanwhile BJP fielded Manjeet Singh Manna

Miawind from the Khadoor Sahib Lok Sabha seat in Punjab, Anita Som Prakash from the Hoshiarpur (SC) Lok Sabha seat, and Parampal Kaur Sindhu, IAS from Bathinda.

In Punjab the Lok Sabha election will take place in the last phase on June 1st and the Aam Aadmi Party is eyeing all the Lok Sabha seats in Punjab. AAP Punjab president and chief minister Bhagwant Mann said that the people of Punjab gave them a historic mandate in 2022 and this time too people will choose the politics of work of the AAP and all AAP candidates will win by huge margins. Reacting to his candidature, Jagdeep Singh Kaka Brar thanked national convener Arvind Kejriwal, AAP Punjab president CM Bhagwant Singh Mann and national general secretary Dr Sandeep Pathak.

I'm not a terrorist , AAP shares Delhi CM's message from Tihar

AGENCY
NEW DELHI, APRIL 16

"My names is Arvind Kejriwal and I am not a terrorist" is the Delhi chief minister's message for the countrymen from Tihar jail, AAP leader Sanjay Singh said Tuesday, slamming the BJP for the treatment being meted out to him in custody. The BJP is trying to break him out of "malice and vendetta" but he will emerge stronger from all of this, Singh said. Addressing a press conference here, Singh alleged that a "notorious criminal" lodged in Tihar jail was allowed to meet his lawyer and wife in the barrack, while Kejriwal had to meet Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann across a glass screen.

Hurt by the treatment being given to him, Kejriwal has sent a message for the countrymen: "My names is Arvind Kejriwal and I am not a terrorist", Singh said.

The Delhi chief minister's assertion borrows from Shahrukh Khan-starrer 'My Name is Khan' in 2010 in which the actor famously says "My Name is Khan and I am not a terrorist".

Singh said, "Kejriwal was being treated like a terrorist and he was allowed to meet Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann across a glass screen."



No discrimination with Muslims under PM Modi, says Anurag Thakur



JAMMU: Union Minister Anurag Thakur on Tuesday said that there was no discrimination with the Muslim community in the country under Prime Minister Narendra Modi led government which focused on "service, good governance and well-being of the poor" after coming to power in 2014. The information and broadcasting minister accused the Congress of dividing people on the name of 'creed, caste and religion' and said the BJP believes in uniting the country and taking it forward. "Before 2014, Muslims were being told if Modi comes to power you will be finished... have you seen the Modi-led government discriminating against anyone on the basis of religion? Has anyone asked you whether you are a Muslim, Hindu or Sikh when it comes to availing the Central government schemes .

JJP fields Naina Chautala from Hisar against BJP's Ranjit Chautala

CHANDIGARH: The Jannayak Janta Party on Tuesday announced names of five Lok Sabha poll candidates for Haryana, fielding two-time MLA Naina Singh Chautala from Hisar against ruling BJP's Ranjit Singh Chautala.

Naina Chautala is wife of JJP chief Ajay Singh Chautala, while Ranjit Chautala is his uncle.

According to the JJP's first list of candidates, former MLA Ramesh Khatak will contest from Sirsa Lok Sabha seat. The JJP has fielded former MLA Rao Bahadur Singh from Bhiwani-Mahendergarh, the party said in a statement. He had recently switched over from the Congress and joined the JJP.



Chautala is the MLA from Badhra in Charkhi Dadri district and mother of former Haryana deputy chief minister Dushyant Chautala.

1,016 candidates clear UPSC exam, Aditya Shrivastava secures top rank

AGENCY
NEW DELHI, APRIL 16

The Union Public Service Commission on Tuesday announced the Civil Services Examination (CSE) 2023.

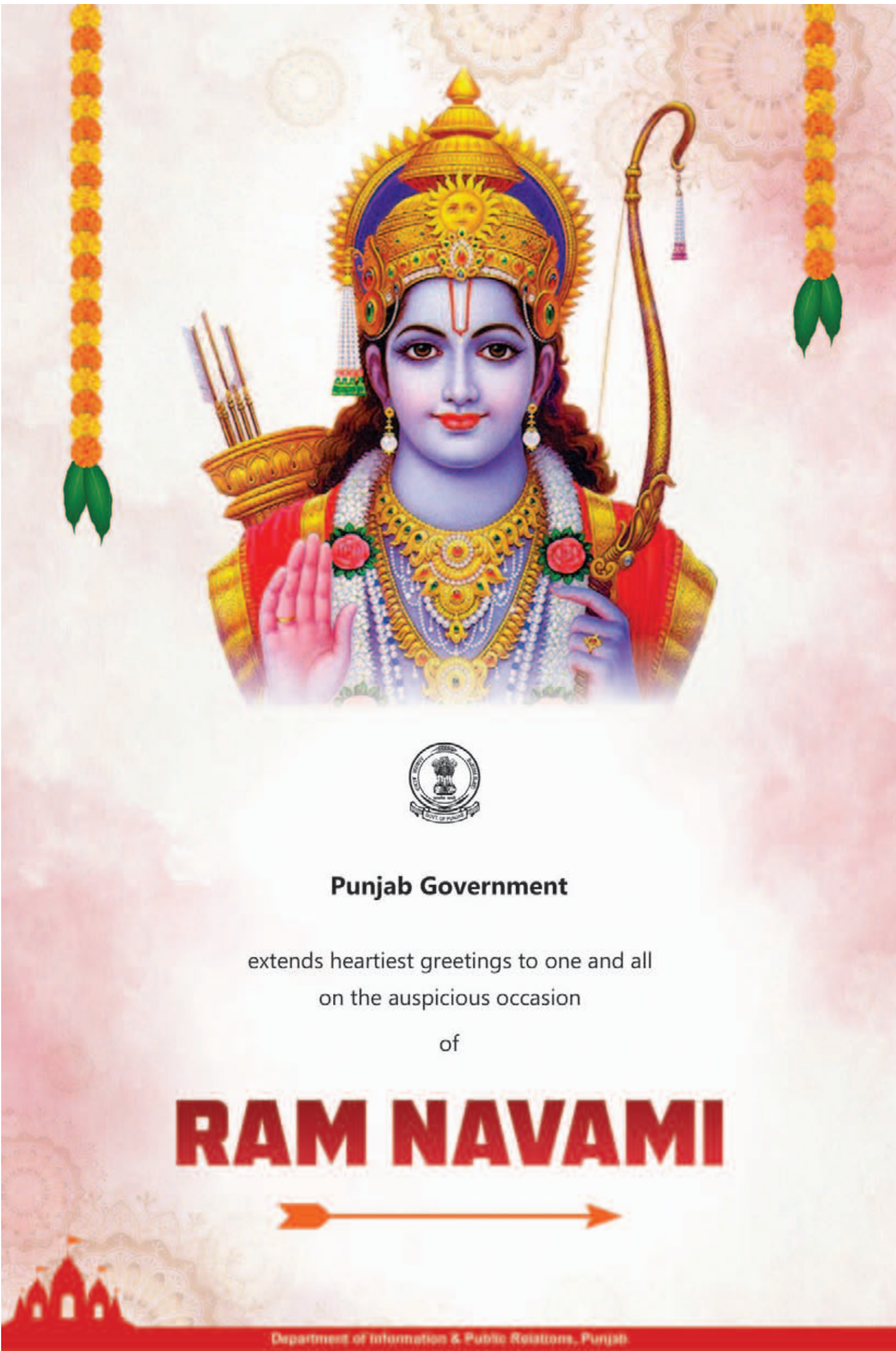
The written part of the Civil Services Examination, 2023 was held by the UPSC in September 2023 and the interviews for the Personality Test were held in January-April 2024.

Aditya Srivastava has secured the first position in the Civil Services Examination, 2023. Animesh Pradhan secured the second rank and Donuru Ananya Reddy stood third.

Others in top 10 include - P K Sidharth Ramkumar (4), Ruhani (5), Srishti Dabas (6) Anmol Rathore (7), Ashish Kumar (8), Nausheen (9) and Aishwaryam Prajapati (10). In recent years, women have demonstrated remarkable achievements in securing top positions in the UPSC examinations.

According to the official release, 1016 candidates (664 men and 352 women) have been recommended by the Commission for appointment to various services. Among the final qualified candidates, the top five comprise three men and two women. In the General category, 347 candidates have been selected, from Economic Weaker Section-115, Other Backward Caste-303, Schedule Caste-165 and Scheduled Tribes-86.

Following Rule 20 (4) and (5) of the Civil Services Examination Rules 2023, the Commission also issued a consolidated Reserve List of candidates. General-120 candidates, EWS-36, OBC-66, SC-10, ST-04, PwBD-1-2 and PwBD-2-2. The number of vacancies reported by the Government to be filled in the IAS category are General-73, EWS-17, OBC-49, SC-27 and ST-14. In the IFS category, General-16, EWS-4, OBC-10, SC-5, and ST-2, while in the IPS, General-80, EWS-20, OBC-55, SC-86, and ST-13.



NEWS BRIEFS

Rajasthan state in-charge Ahmed meets Ashok Gehlot



PREETI RANI SADHAURA: On Tuesday, Syed Iqbal Ahmed, PCC member National Coordinator/Rajasthan co-in-charge AICC Minority Department, met senior Congress leader and former Chief Minister Rajasthan Ashok Gehlot at his residence. There was a long discussion regarding minorities and Lok Sabha elections. Let us tell you that along with various posts, Syed Iqbal Ahmed has also been appointed co-in-charge of Rajasthan by the party. In such a situation, he has been fulfilling his responsibility very well and has been working to strengthen the party in Rajasthan for a long time. Senior Congress leader and PCC Syed Iqbal Ahmed said that India coalition government is going to be formed in the country. In Rajasthan too, the party will perform well and win almost all the seats.

CHANDIGARH, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2024

Govt to enhance professional skills of employees : CS

BUREAU CHANDIGARH, APRIL 16

Haryana Chief Secretary, Sh. T.V.S.N. Prasad paid rich tributes to Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar on his birth anniversary and extended congratulations to the people of the state. Expressing his pride in participating in the birth anniversary program of the architect of the Constitution, he remarked that this marks his inaugural public function as Chief Secretary.

The Chief Secretary was addressing a function organized by the Haryana Civil Secretariat SC/ST Employees Welfare Association Chandigarh, commemorating the 133rd birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, held here today.

Principal Secretary of Excise and Taxation, Sh Devendra Kalyan, Special Secretary of Finance, Sh. Jaiveer Arya, Special Secretary of Personnel and Training, Sh. Prabhjot Singh, Special Secretary of the Agriculture Department, Dr. Munish Nagpal, Joint Secretary Sh Tarun Panwaria, Special Secretary of Administration, Sh Samvartak Singh, and Senior Commandant Yogesh Prakash Singh and other senior officers shared their perspectives and paid floral tributes to Baba Saheb on this occasion.

The Chief Secretary highlighted with pride that Baba Saheb was the first individual in the country to receive education at Columbia University. He noted that the house where Baba Saheb resided while pursuing his economics degree in London has been transformed into a memorial site. In addition, he emphasized Baba Saheb's monumental contribution in granting India the status of the world's largest democratic country through the Constitution.



while pursuing his economics degree in London has been transformed into a memorial site. In addition, he emphasized Baba Saheb's monumental contribution in granting India the status of the world's largest democratic country through the Constitution.

He said that embracing Baba Saheb's ethos of "Be Educated" as an ideal, the government will enhance the professional skills of its employees. This initiative aims to empower the state's workforce to serve the public more effectively, aligning with his principles. Through this endeavor, the state employees aspire to earn the distinction of being the most skilled and successful. Furthermore, in line with Baba Saheb's teachings, there will be a strong emphasis on promoting social harmony and morality to foster unity within society.

Modi government will be formed for third time with public support: CM



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA KARNAL, APRIL 16

Haryana Chief Minister Naib Singh Saini participated in several programs organized in Karnal on Tuesday. Chief Minister Nirmal reached Kutiya first. Here he bowed his head and took blessings of the saints and did service work. After this, CM reached program organized at Ladies Industrial Home Kunjpura Road. Here the girls welcomed the CM by presenting flowers. After this program the Chief Minister reached Raghunath Nagar. During the programs, while Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini congratulated Durga Ashtami festival, he also appealed to cast every vote for BJP candidates in the Lok Sabha elections and called for electing Modi government for the third consecutive time in the country. In his address, the Chief Minister said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has left no stone unturned in the development of the country. In 2014, the country was at 11th place in the list of economy, which has now reached the fifth place. Whenever PM Modi sent grants for development works in Haryana, the Haryana government increased its share in getting the development works done in the state. Chief Minister Naib Singh Saini said that the public welfare schemes implemented in Haryana by BJP candidate from Karnal Lok Sabha seat Manohar Lal

during his tenure as the Chief Minister will benefit many generations to come. He said that we have to make Manohar Lal ji win with the maximum number of votes and send him to the Lok Sabha. CM said that Congress always gave the slogan of eradicating poverty, but they could not eliminate poverty. People have lost faith in Congress. The people of the country believe in PM Modi and are ready to form Modi government for the third consecutive time. The CM said that work on the promises made to the people of the country in the BJP's manifesto will be started as soon as the government is formed. The BJP's manifesto talks about the development of the country.

Bullet Rani's 21,000 km Journey to Promote PM Modi's re-election

RAHUL KOHLI JAGDAHRI, APRIL 16

Ma Rajalakshmi Manda, famously known as Bullet Rani, embarked on a motorcycle journey from Tamil Nadu to Yamunanagar as part of her mission to promote Prime Minister Narendra Modi's re-election. BJP district president Rajesh Sapra reported that Rajalakshmi Manda's journey covered approximately 21,000 kilometers on a motorcycle from Tamil Nadu to Delhi.

Upon her arrival in Yamunanagar, Bullet Rani was given a warm welcome by BJP leaders and workers. She was joined by district BJP youth wing president Nischal Chaudhary, district general secretary Krishna Singla, and others as she rode through various landmarks such as Shaheed Bhagat Singh Chowk, Pyara Chowk, and others. The journey concluded as she continued towards Ambala.

Rajesh Sapra praised Bullet Rani's efforts, highlighting her positive impact and recognition of women's empowerment in India. BJP youth wing president Nischal Chaudhary added that BJP is the only party that gives proper respect and recognition to women, citing schemes like the Pradhan



Mantri Ujjwala Yojana and the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao campaign. Rajalakshmi Manda expressed her desire for India to become a world leader under PM Modi, which she believes is possible with his leadership. The journey, she hopes, will inspire millions of women across the country.

Mantri Ujjwala Yojana and the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao campaign.

Rajalakshmi Manda expressed her desire for India to become a world leader under

Making wall painting on public property is illegal

RAHUL KOHLI JAGDAHRI, APRIL 16

District Election Officer and DC Captain Manoj Kumar said that in view of the Lok Sabha elections 2024, the Model Code of Conduct has been effectively implemented in the area. He said that doing any wall painting on public property i.e. government and semi-government property is illegal. Action will be taken against those accused of doing so under the Defamation of Public Property Act. He said that the teams formed to effectively implement the Model Code of Conduct have been instructed to take strict action in such cases. He said that for wall painting on private property, it is necessary to take prior



written permission of the property owner. He said that the artist/painter doing wall painting on private property will also have to write his

name and mobile number below the painting. He said that in such cases, action will be taken under the Defiance of Public Property Act 1985.

Poster making and slogan writing competition organized

MAINPAL KASHYAP INDRI, APRIL 16

Poster making and slogan writing competition was organized by the Legal Literacy Cell, Voter Awareness Committee and Commerce Department in Shaheed Udhham Singh Government College, Matak Majri under the leadership of Principal Dr. Vikas Attri. About 40 students participated in this competition. Principal Dr. Vikas Atri inspired the students to participate enthusiastically in this competition. Students expressed their views through writing posters and slogans on the topics of right to education, female foeticide, voter awareness, self-reliant India, pollution-free India. Dr. Manju Malik, while telling the students about the importance of this competition, said that this competition will help in the overall development of the students. This program was organized under the supervision of Legal Literacy Cell in-charge Dr. Manju Malik and Commerce Department Committee in-charge Dr. Pooja. The stage was moderated by Dr. Pradeep. The role of the jury was played by Dr. Pooja, Dr. Nirmal, Dr.

lik, while telling the students about the importance of this competition, said that this competition will help in the overall development of the students.

Dimple and Dr. Pradeep and in the slogan writing competition, Aamna stood first, Bhavna stood second and Priya stood third. In the poster making



CM expresses grief over demise of AIPRO Balram Sharma's father



DALBIR MALIK KURUKSHETRA, APR 16

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh has expressed condolence on the demise of late Rajneesh Sharma, father of Assistant Information and Public Relations Officer Balram Sharma. Late last night, Chief Minister Nayab Singh reached the residence of AIPRO Balram Sharma in Sector-7 Karnal. He shared his grief with other family members including AIPRO Balram Sharma, his mother and also prayed to Almighty God to give peace to the departed soul and give strength to the family members to bear the loss.

The Chief Minister said that the shadow of a father is like a tree, under whose shade the entire family lives. When this tree which provides shade goes on its last journey, the family members suffer a lot due to its departure. Therefore, may the Supreme Father Almighty place the departed soul of late Rajneesh Sharma at His feet and give strength to the family members to bear the grief. On this occasion, MLA Harvindra Kalyan, former media coordinator of the Chief Minister Jagmohan Anand etc. also expressed their condolences.

Jindal Stainless pledges commitment to science-based targets for Net Zero

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA HISAR, APRIL 16

Jindal Stainless, India's largest stainless steel manufacturer, announced its official commitment to the near-term science-based emissions reduction and Net Zero targets outlined by global climate action body Science-Based Targets initiative (SBTi), in a significant step towards achieving carbon neutrality. The development makes the company the largest such player in the stainless steel and steel sector in the country to express the intent.

On the occasion, Managing Director, Jindal Stainless, Mr Abhyuday Jindal, said, "This commitment is an important milestone as we work towards transitioning to a low-carbon economy, and marks the beginning of a rigorous process to develop ambitious, science-driven emissions reduction targets. By aligning with SBTi's standards, the company aims to significantly reduce its carbon footprint and inspire positive change within the industry."

Commenting on the development, Chief Sustainability Officer, Mr Kalyan Bhattacharjee, said, "The development of these targets will include a comprehensive assessment of the company's GHG (Greenhouse Gas) inventory across the operations and the entire value chain. Going forward, we will develop the Science Based Targets (SBTs) aligned with the latest climate science deemed necessary to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement - limiting global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels - over the next 24 months and get them validated by the SBTi."

Snake creates panic in village

PARI BAJAJ KARNAL, APRIL 16

Panic spread due to the appearance of black snake in the house of village Tusang of the sub-division, when a woman started mixing straw with Bar-seem by hand to feed the animals and the snake came into her hand.

While giving information, Snake man Mahindra Kumar Kheda said that Goldie Kamboj informed him through phone that a snake has been visible in the straw room of her house for many days, which today came into the hands of her mother while taking out the straw. Mahindra Kumar immediately reached the spot along with his partner Man Singh and rescued the snake. He said that earlier also a snake was caught from the same place. Earlier the snake caught was a cobra, but this one was of extremely poisonous type. He said that every living being has its own place in nature, hence we should protect the living beings.



Annual Arts exhibition held at Guru Nanak College



RAJNI SONI YAMUNANAGAR, APR 16

On the occasion of World Arts Day, Annual Art Exhibition was organised at Guru Nanak Girls College, Santpura, Yamunanagar in which the artworks of the students of Fine Arts Department were displayed. The exhibition was inaugurated by the college director Dr. Varinder Gandhi and principal Dr. Harvinder Kaur. The coordinators of the

exhibition were. Taranjit Kaur and Baljeet Kaur. 35 works of students were showcased out of which 5 prizes were awarded. The students who were honoured were Anjali Sharma, Bhavika, Saloni, Gargi, Payal of BA Fine Arts. Students expressed their feelings and thoughts through their actions. Some students created intricate works with paint and charcoal, while others applied fine dots to create the entire composition.

10 yrs of Modi govt outweighs 55 of Congress: Banto Kataria

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA PANCHKULA, APRIL 16

While there is disappointment in the Congress camp due to the names of the candidates not being finalised, the BJP has come to the forefront in the election campaign. Banto Kataria, BJP candidate from Ambala Lok Sabha, is continuously meeting people and seeking support for himself as part of his public relations campaign. In this series, Banto Kataria reached Morni Mandal of Panchkula district. Here Mrs. Kataria went to Madhana, Badisher, Morni, Thandom and Baldwala villages and addressed the villagers and appealed to vote by pressing the button on the lotus. On this occasion, District President Deepak Sharma, Election Incharge Vishal



Seth, Shivalik Development Bird Vice President Om Prakash Devnagar, District Vice President Sanjeev Kaushal, District Secretary Kanak Rekha, Mandal President Sukhbir Singh and other BJP workers were with him.

Banto Kataria has created a wave of BJP in the entire Ambala Lok Sabha as well as Kalka Assembly. She said that people are waiting for May 25. During public relations, Kataria

ia said that the people of Haryana love Narendra Modi and are eager to make Modi the Prime Minister for the third time. She said that in the last 10 years, the double engine government has taken care of every section. He said that if we evaluate the 55 years of Congress rule and the 10 years of Modi government, we will find that the 10 years of Modi are heavier than the 55 years. Banto Kataria said that Modi has

promised in his resolution letter to enrich and empower the poor, youth, farmers and women. In ten years, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has rejuvenated the country and he is determined to make the country the number one country in the world. PM Modi's thinking is that every house should have a roof over it and every stomach should have food. Modi government is continuously making efforts for this. Kataria said that our mothers and sisters used to go far and wide for water carrying pots on their heads, but when the double engine government came, arrangements were made for them to have pure water delivered to their homes. For free treatment, the BJP government gave schemes like Ayushman and Chirayu Cards to the poor.

Successful bypass surgery done in Adesh Hospital

GOLDY CHUGH SHAHABAD, APRIL 16

Successful bypass surgery of a heart patient was done at Adesh Hospital and Medical College, Mohri. This surgery was done by experienced heart surgeon Ankush Singh and his team. Giving this information, heart surgeon Ankush Singh said that the heart patient Aadesh, resident of Kurukshetra, had come to the hospital, who was serious due to heart disease and due to which the patient had to undergo bypass surgery. The patient was admitted to Adesh Hospital and his team performed the successful surgery in about three hours. Dr. Ankush Singh said that after the surgery the patient is now fine and soon the patient will be sent home. Dr. Ankush Singh has been posted as a heart surgeon in San-



jay Gandhi PGI, Lucknow for many years and has been providing services to heart patients in Modi-based Adesh Medical College and Hospital for a long time. Chairman of Adesh Group and Head of Cardiology Department and M.D. Congratulating Dr. Ankush Singh and his team for the successful surgery, Dr. Guntas Gill said that it is a matter of pride for many districts of Haryana that bypass

surgery, open and stent, aneurysm, Since birth, surgery for hole in the heart, bypass surgery for operation of blood vessels is being done and the cardiac department here is completely equipped with new technology and modern machines and equipment.

Dr. Guntas Gill said that lung surgery is also being done in Adesh Hospital. Dr. Guntas Gill said that a special department and team is

working for heart disease in the order, in which there are many experienced doctors. He said that right from inserting a stent, or pacemaker, or any other heart device, this treatment is being done at a lower cost than other hospitals in the state and for the convenience of heart patients, the team of cardiologists is 24. Is deployed for hours.

Areas within 3 kilometers of Punjab border declared as 'Dry Areas'

SHWETA SHARMA
SUJANPUR: The District Magistrate of Pathankot, Aditya Uppal, has issued an order stating that polling will be held on April 19, for the Lok Sabha elections in the Udhampur constituency of Jammu and Kashmir (UT), and the counting of votes will take place on June 4. Main officers of Punjab are keeping a close watch on the areas within 3 kilometers of Punjab border, which have been declared as 'Dry Areas' from 5 pm on April 17, until 5 pm on April 19, and from 5 pm on June 4, respectively. He stated that within the areas of 3 kilometers from the Punjab border, hotels, shops, restaurants, clubs, beer bars, bars, etc., where the legal sale of liquor is permitted, or the use of any intoxicating substances such as selling, serving, storing, and consuming alcohol or other narcotic substances is strictly prohibited.

SHASHI PAL JAIN
CHANDIGARH, APR 16

In a major breakthrough, Rupnagar Police in a joint operation with SSOC Mohali, has solved the murder case of Nangal-based Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) leader in less than 72 hours with the arrest of two operatives of a terror module backed by Pakistan-based terrorist organisation, said Director General of Police (DGP) Punjab Gaurav Yadav here on Tuesday.

Stray dogs fell down on foreman who went to jungle, dies

RAKESH JINDAL
NABHA: With the ferocity of stray dogs increasing day by day in Punjab, precious lives are dying. Day by day there is a continuous increase in such incidents. Such a heart-wrenching incident took place in Nabha block At village Kahle Majra, where stray dogs are killing people one after another with the terror of stray dogs. This is not the first case in the village, even before this, stray dogs in the village took human lives to death. Gurvinder Singh, a 44-year-old combine foreman who went to the toilet in the fields early in the morning, was mauled by the stray dogs. Made a victim and put him to death. The deceased was a resident of Khiri, Uttar Pradesh, who was living with his family in village Kahle Majra for the past few days. During the day, a Gursikh man came to the village from the foreman of the combine to plant the season and in the morning when he went out for the toilet, he was mauled to death by dogs. We are living in such an environment of fear of stray dogs that no one leaves the house alone.

Ensuring compliance with instructions of EC created go



JAGDEEP SINGH GILL
JAITU: people assembly Elections - 2024 of In view of Indian selection Commission by applicable ideal selection Assistant Returning Officer-cum-Sub-Divisional Magistrate Mr. Varun Kumar to ensure compliance A meeting was held with the representatives of all political parties . This opportunity They Group to complete the election process peacefully parties of Seeking cooperation also did He said that it should be ensured that permission (through online-offline medium) is taken from the Assistant Returning Officer for conducting any kind of rally. He instructed the political party/candidate to book the expenditure as per the rate list issued by the Election Commission of India and to share the complete information of the expenditure with the accounting office.He said that no political party or candidate or their workers will be allowed to post flags , banner notices , slogans etc. on their land , building or wall without the permission of a person. He said that the instructions issued by the Election Commission should be followed in this regard. If an advertisement is put up on a private property, then the concerned person will pass NOC.

Psycho-fest 2024: A celebration of creativity and insight



AJAY MALHOTRA
FATEHGARH SAHIB: Desh Bhagat University's the University of Psychology, Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages recently hosted Psycho-fest 2024, an enthralling event that brought together students to showcase their talents and insights through model displaying and poster making competitions. The fest proved to be a captivating journey through the diverse realms of psychology, exploring themes ranging from cognitive processes to mental health.Dr. Vrinder Singh, advisor to chancellor, inaugurated the event, emphasizing its significance in providing a platform for students to express their creativity amidst the challenges of academic stress. Social Sciences and Languages Director, Dr. Devinder Kumar, lauded Psycho-fest 2024 as a celebration of human intellect and creativity. He commended the winners of the model displaying competition-Arshdeep Kaur, Manjeet Kumar Singh (1st place); Harpreet Kaur, Manpreet Dhimran, Gudiya Rani (2nd place); Munasha Manwira, Mahak Gupta (3rd place)—for their innovative interpretations of psychological theories. The poster making competition was equally engaging, with students using visual art to articulate complex psychological concepts. The posters sparked thought-provoking discussions and reflections, resonating with the audience. Noteworthy attendees included Mrs. Dipreet Kaur and Mrs. Gurwinder Kaur from the Faculty of Nursing, adding depth to the interdisciplinary exchange of ideas.

Police solves murder case of VHP leader; two assailants held



Police teams have also recovered two .32 bore Pistols—including one used in the crime—along with 16 live cartridges and 1 empty cartridge, besides, impounding the TVS Jupiter scooter used in the crime, he added. He said that preliminary investigations have revealed that this terror module backed by Pakistan-based terrorist organisation was being operated, guided, motivated and funded by the foreign-based handlers operating from Portugal. "Arrested shooters Mandeep Kumar alias Mangi and Surinder Kumar alias Rikka are the foot soldiers of these foreign-based entities, who are the operatives of Pak-based terrorist masterminds. Foot soldiers have been recruited through the lure of money," said the DGP.

He said that both the shooters were in contact with foreign-based handlers via encrypted Apps and the latter had shared the location and photo of the target with them, besides, arranging funds and weapons to execute this killing. DGP Gau-

rav Yadav said that the Punjab Police will take the investigation to the logical end and all the accused persons involved in this case will be arrested. Punjab Police is fully committed to maintaining peace and harmony in the state, he reiterated. Sharing more details, SSP Rupnagar Gulneet Singh Khurana said that as soon as the information was received, different teams were constituted and deputed for the investigation of the case.

A reward of Rs 1 lakh was also announced for providing information regarding the identification of assailants and photographs of accused persons grabbed from a CCTV were circulated through electronic, print and social media, he added. He said that further investigations are on to ascertain the terror organisation which operated this module. In this regard, an FIR was registered on 13-04-2024 under sections 302 and 34 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and sections 25 and 27 of the Arms Act at Nangal Police Station.

BJP's election manifesto is completely in favor of people: Dr. Deepak Jyoti

AJAY MALHOTRA
FATEHGARH SAHIB, APR 16

Talking to media Bhartiya Janata Party's Bassi Pathana Constituency in-charge Dr. Deepak Jyoti said that the BJP's election manifesto (Sankalp Paper) released by the Prime Minister Shri Narinder Modi Ji is completely in favor of the people of the country.

He said that once again BJP is fully prepared for victory because people are completely fed up with the AAP government in Punjab. Condemning the murder of president of the local Vishawa Hindu Prishad (VHP) Vikas Bagga, Dr. Deepak Jyoti blamed the Bhgwant Mann government for it. She claimed that it was a politically motivated target killing, aimed at vitiating the peace and communal harmony in Punjab, ahead of the Lok Sabha polls. Deepak Jyoti

PPS organizes Baisakhi Welfare Fete

RAKESH JINDAL
NABHA, APR 16

Baisakhi Welfare Fete was inaugurated by Headmaster Dr DC Sharma in the Headmaster's Green on April 13, 2024. A large number of Old Nabhaites and parents turned up on the occasion. Many games and eatables stalls were put up catering to varied



tastes and likings. Other highlights included a fund-raising stall/ONA Stall and Tambola. Headmaster Dr Sharma conveyed his greetings to the parents on the

occasion of Baisakhi. He shared his vision for the school as well. In a special assembly prior to the fete, Kudrat Kaur Rai, Parikalpana Gupta and Gurleen Kaur threw light on the relevance of the day in English, Hindi and Punjabi respectively. The school choir presented Shabad. Bursar Dr Ankur Samuel Birkett, ODHM Mrs Ravinder Kaur.

SAS district records wheat arrival of over 10,000 MT



SHASHI PAL JAIN
MOHALI, APR 16

District Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar Mandis have witnessed an arrival of 10588 MT wheat by the previous day, out of which 10403 MT of grain has been procured, said Deputy Commissioner, Mrs Aashika Jain, today, here.

She said that the district administration is committed to ensure hassle-free procurement and so far there is no issue remaining related to procurement arrangements. The contracts of labour and cartage of Kurali and Lalru Mandis have also been matured, today, she further added. The Deputy Commissioner said that the lifting is be-



ing done regularly. So far, 2519 MT of wheat has been lifted which contributes to 124 per cent as per mandatory condition of 72 hours. Similarly, payment of Rs 15.37 crore against the procured grain as per the condition of 48 hours has been made which contributes to 140.9 per cent. The procurement

agencies have been directed to accelerate lifting to avoid any glut in the Mandis. She said that all the district managers of Procurement Agencies have been asked to be in touch with their field staff and there should be no grievance to the farmers in the ongoing procurement season.

108 Ambulance conducts first responder program at Sarvhitkari Sen. Sec. Vidya Mandir, Hajipur, Hoshiarpur

DALJEET AJNOHA
HOSHIARPUR, APR 16

108 Ambulance, a leading healthcare service provider in Punjab, took a significant step towards enhancing community well-being by organizing a First Responder Program at Sarvhitkari Sen. Sec. Vidya Mandir, Hajipur, Hoshiarpur today.

The primary objective of this program is to provide students with the vital knowledge base for dealing with any medical emergency and be hands-on with first aid assistance. The program was organized in the presence of Principal Manoj Kumar, Cluster Manager Pawan Nabh, Marketing Manager Deepak Kumar, and FRP trainer Jaswinder Singh. First aid is administered in critical moments and prompt actions can drastically improve sur-



vival rates and reduce the severity of the situation. One of the primary advantages of this program is a heightened level of confidence and competence during emergencies. Recognizing this benefit, Ziqitza Healthcare, held training sessions under the direction of Mr. Jaswinder Singh, a FRP trainer. Essential first aid procedures for situations like CPR, heart attack, bleeding, fractures, snake bites, fainting, choking, hypoglycemia, etc. were covered in the session. A hands-on presentation was in-

corporated to improve the student's understanding of the emergency case management process. 90+ Students and staff attended the session. Divulging details about the Program, Mr. Manish Batra, Project Head of Ziqitza Healthcare, said "Our main aim of organizing this event in the Sarvhitkari Sen. Sec. Vidya Mandir, Hajipur, Hoshiarpur was to enlighten students about the significance of first aid and how it helps minimize the seriousness of the injury if provided timely to patients."

Parampal is BJP's candidate from Bathinda, wave of happiness among BJP workers



KULWINDER KARWAL
SARDULGARH, APR 16

As the Lok Sabha elections are approaching, political parties are announcing their candidates. Under this, BJP has announced IAS Parampal Kaur Maluka as its candidate from Bathinda Lok Sabha seat. With this, three major parties have announced their candidates for the Bathinda Lok Sabha seat, in which Congress has fielded Jeet Mahendra Sidhu, Aam Aadmi Party's Gurmeet Singh Khudian and BJP's Parampal Kaur has been fielded. It is worth mentioning here that Parampal

Kaur Maluka is the daughter-in-law of former Education Minister Sikandar Singh Maluka. Sikandar Singh Maluka himself is a senior leader of Shiromani Akali Dal Badal, but both his daughter-in-law and son joined the BJP recently.

Sardulgarh BJP workers distributed laddoos today while congratulating Parampal Kaur for becoming a BJP candidate from Bathinda. On this occasion, Constituency Incharge Goma Ran Karandi said that this time BJP is contesting elections individual in 13 Lok Sabha seats of Punjab.

Channi foresees Punjab government's imminent collapse post-Lok Sabha Polls

BUNNY SODHI
JALANDHAR, APR 16

Charanjit Singh Channi, the former Chief Minister of Punjab and Congress Party candidate from the Jalandhar Lok Sabha Constituency, convened a meeting at the local Congress Bhawan with party leaders and workers.

Encouraging them to fight the election vigorously, he likened their endeavor to that of Sudama, anticipating blessings akin to those bestowed by Shri Krishna upon the people of Jalandhar Lok Sabha constituency. Channi urged the electorate not to entrust leaders who frequently switch parties, emphasizing the consequences of such actions on the public. Addressing journalists, Channi predicted the imminent collapse of the Punjab government shortly after the Lok Sabha



election results. He proposed elevating Jalandhar to the status of Punjab's second capital, alongside Chandigarh, advocating for government operations from the city. Criticizing the current administration's inefficiency in addressing local sanitation issues, he underscored the residents' grievances concerning waste, sewage, and water problems. Reflecting on his tenure as Chief Minister, Channi highlighted his allocation of funds to various reli-

gious institutions during his brief term, contrasting it with the incumbent Aam Aadmi Party's alleged cessation of these projects. Asserting his commitment to development, he pledged to replicate his success in Sri Chamkor Sahib Constituency by transforming Jalandhar into a model constituency. Channi accused Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann of failing to fulfill promises made during the previous by-election.

SVEEP Pathankot team visits sensitive, low voting booth number 84 and 85



BUREAU
PATHANKOT, APR 16

Under the leadership of Sub Divisional Magistrate cum Returning Officer Pathankot Major Sumit Mudd, Naresh Kumar Election Kanungo, Nodal Officer of SVEEP Pathankot 003 Major Shamsher Singh and his team visited the sensitive and low voting booth number 84 and 85 of Pathankot.

In which the BLO of the concerned booth encouraged the people to vote loudly without any fear, greed and dis-

crimination. On this occasion, the members of Sweep Pathankot 003 encouraged the voters of the Improvement Trust Ward to use their vote properly. Major Shamsher Singh Nodal Officer told the people about the importance of their vote and made them aware that they must use their vote to elect the government, their one vote can change the future of the country. This will be possible only if they use their vote to elect a worthy candidate to form a good government.

GZS school of Architecture and planning student achieves top recognition at Saint Gobain Transparence 18.0

ANIL VERMA/ANANT-DEEP KAUR
BATHINDA, APR 16

The Saint Gobain Transparence 18.0, India's premier Architectural Design Competition, has witnessed a shining moment as Charlina J. Dutta, a final year student at Giani Zail Singh School of Architecture and Planning, Maharaja Ranjit Singh Punjab Technical University, Bathinda, secured top honors with her outstanding project submission.

Amidst a pool of 680 entries nationwide, including 75 from the North Zone, Charlina's project for campus design emerged as a Best Studio Project (North Region), which is a beacon of creativity and innovation. Under the guidance of esteemed faculty members Ar. Kapil Arora, Ar. Kanishka

Kundra, and Ar. Hargobind Singh, Charlina's project captivated judges and industry experts, earning recognition for its exceptional quality and commitment.

Dr. Gurinder Pal Singh Brar, the University Registrar, extended heartfelt congratulations to the Architecture Department, emphasizing the significance of continuous participation in such competitions to enrich students' learning experiences. He pledged unwavering support for future endeavors and expert lectures to nurture the budding talents within the university. Professor (Dr.) Bhupinder Pal Singh, the Head of the Department at GZS, commended Charlina's remarkable achievement and expressed gratitude for the faculty's dedication in nurturing young talents.

PD Jain Charitable Trust conducts pension donation program



SUKH NAHAR
JAGRAON, APR 16

PD Jain charitable trust Jagraon conducted a pension donation program in the memory of freedom fighter Daya Chand Jain under the guidance of chairman Rajinder Jain.

The trust donated monthly pension to 100 needy widows in 46th series of the program. The donors arranged for meal and Prasad as well and assured every possible

help to the needy widows. In his address, Rajinder Jain mentioned that the motive behind this program is to help needy people and they shall continue organizing more such programs in future as well. Gurinder Sidhu, Raj Kumar Bhalla, Captain Naresh Verma wished everybody on the occasion of Baisakhi. At this occasion, Hari Ratan Babbu, Shashi Bhushan Jain, Darshan Lal, Ramesh Jain, Dinesh Kumar Yadav and other were present.

First-time voters should participate in Lok Sabha Elections: District Election Officer

KHUSHAV SINGLA
MANID GOBINDGARH, APR 16

During the Lok Sabha elections, Ms. Parneet Shergill, the District Election Officer, discussed details related to the Lok Sabha elections. She mentioned that 9537 new voters in the Fatehgarh Sahib Lok Sabha constituency will be using their vote for the first time.

Additionally, 544 polling booths have been set up in three Vidhan Sabha constituencies of the district: 178 polling booths in the 054-Bassi Pathana constituency, 200 in the 055-Fatehgarh Sahib constituency, and 166 in the 056-Amlah constituency, with reserved polling booths specifically for women as per the instructions of the Election Commission. Ms. Parneet Shergill further in-



formed that a total of 448,151 voters in the district will exercise their voting rights, comprising 236,037 male voters, 212,104 female voters, and 10,010 of the third gender. She elaborated that in the 054-Bassi Pathana constituency, out of 146,397 vot-

ers, 77,354 are male voters, 69,040 are female voters, and 3 voters belong to the third gender.

Similarly, in the 055-Fatehgarh Sahib constituency, out of 160,802 voters, 84,361 are male, 76,437 are female, and 4 are third gender voters. Likewise, in the 056-Amlah constituency, out of 140,952 voters, 74,322 are male, 60,627 are female, and 3 are third gender voters.

The District Election Officer appealed to all citizens of the district to exercise their voting rights, emphasizing that the Constitution has empowered citizens with the right to vote, enabling them to choose their government according to their preference. Therefore, it is essential for everyone to use their vote so that our democracy becomes stronger.



KISHORI LAL BAINS
UNA: Artist Jyoti of village Dabsai of Gram Panchayat Dhalot of district Hamirpur has been working in the field of art for 6 years. She makes an exact sketch of any person. Jyoti receives orders from different states of India through Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube, which she makes and sends to them. Jyoti's art gallery is famous by the name Jyoti Art Collection' on Google, Instagram, Facebook and YouTube; 23-year-old Jyoti is B.Sc. B.Ed. She has two sisters, father Devraj Taylor and mother Satya Devi Anganwadi assistant. Till now she has made sketches of about 500 people. Jyoti, who considers Leonardo da Vinci as her idol, has made and sent a sketch of famous American actress and singer Selena Marie Gomez.

Extinct species of Tiyrur found in Chashal after 179 years

SHIMLA: Botanist Ashutosh Sharma of Himachal Pradesh has discovered an extinct flower species Tiyrur , whose scientific name is Impatiens violoidis, 179 years after it was last seen in 1844 in the Chanshal forests of Shimla. Ashutosh Sharma who is pursuing a PhD from the University of Transdisciplinary Health Sciences and Technology (TDU-FRLHT), Bengaluru said Dr. MP Edgeworth discovered this species of Tiyrur in 1844 and recorded it, but after that, this species was never seen. Ashutosh said that he had been searching for this species since 2017. This species is not found anywhere else except Chanchal, as it is found in an area of 27 square kilometers. Flowers are also present in this genus, but its special thing is that unlike other flowers, it does not have a spur, i.e., a tail. He was searching for this species for four years, and in September 2023, he found it in the forest of deodar and black tosh in Janglikh, Chanshal. This is a two- to four-foot plant Now its DNA sequencing is being done, which will provide important information about its development and reveal its evolution and how it was formed. Plants of this rare species can be prepared through tissue culture technology so that they can be used for decoration. The species of this genus are in great demand in European countries. He said that chancel is surrounded by hills from three sides, –east, west, and north. In such a situation, the pollen and seeds of this flower are not able to come out of the valley because these hills are more than 4000 metres high. This plant grows at an altitude of more than 2500 to 3500 metres due to the presence of high hills in all three directions. In the fourth direction, there is a plain area where, even if pollen and seeds reach there, the plant does not get a favourable environment to grow.

ARTRAC investiture ceremony-2024 held

SHASHI PAL JAIN
SHIMLA, APRIL 16

Army Training Command (ARTRAC) Investiture Ceremony was held at the Army Training Command, Shimla on 16 April 2024. General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Army Training Command (ARTRAC), Lt Gen Manjinder Singh, awarded ARTRAC Unit Appreciations to seven Training Establishments of the Indian Army for their outstanding performance. The recipients of the prestigious award are Military Intelligence Training School & Depot, Pune, Army Medical Corps Centre & College, Lucknow, Corps of Military Police Centre & School, Bangalore, Army Institute of Physical Training, Pune, Junior Leaders Academy, Bareilly, Wargaming Development Centre, New Delhi and Special Forces Training School, Bakloh. These Training Establishments have made exceptional contribution



in enhancing training ethos and standards of the Indian Army, strengthening the foundation of a strong and resilient force for the 21st Century On behalf of the Training Establishments, the Commandants accompanied by Subedar Majors received the Unit Appreciations from the Army Commander in the solemn event held at Shimla. In addition, four Training Institutes to include Military College of Telecommunication

Engineering, Mhow, Junior Leaders Academy, Bareilly, Corps of Military Engineering, Pune and Wargaming Development Center, New Delhi were awarded with Financial Excellence Awards. In individual category, Lt Col JK Verma of Corps of Military Engineering, Pune, Maj Preeti Mudela & Maj T Irom of Military College of Electrical & Mechanical Engineering, Secunderabad, Maj Atul

Pathania of Army Airborne Training School, Agra, Maj Guralp Singh of Military College of Telecommunication & Engineering, Mhow, Nb Sub Sunil Patil of Electrical Mechanical Engineering School, Vadodara and Cfn Rahul Parmar of Simulator Development Division, Secunderabad were felicitated with Award of Technical Excellence for their innovations.

'Falahar Grahan Program' organized at Raj Bhavan



DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, APRIL 16

On the auspicious occasion of Durga Ashtami, 'Falahar Grahan' program was organized by Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla at Raj Bhawan today. He has

extended greetings to the people of the State on the occasion of Durga Ashtami. Governor prayed for happiness and prosperity for the State. In his message, he said that this festival inspires all of us to walk on the path of truth with

firmness and eradicate the evils from our lives. Earlier, the Governor and Lady Governor Janki Shukla offered prayers at the famous religious place at Kali Bari Temple in Shimla in the morning and also distributed Prasad to the devotees.

Ambedkar Jayanti celebrated with enthusiasm in Sai

SHANTI GAUTAM
BADDI, APRIL 16

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's birth anniversary was celebrated with great enthusiasm in the Sai area of the Doon Assembly Constituency by the NISSI Education Foundation. Retired Indian Administrative Service officer Bharat Bhushan attended the ceremony as the chief guest. The event began with the chief guest offering flowers to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. The program featured welcome songs, Naati, plays, and bhangra performed by children of the NISSI Education Foundation. The children's rendition of the song "Sahib Mere Bhimrao" left everyone spellbound. Through a play by the women's group from Tali, the emotional state of parents left in old age homes by their



children was depicted, leaving the audience moved. A play presented by the children raised awareness about the negative impacts of excessive use of social media. Chief Guest Bharat Bhushan stated that Dr. B.R. Ambedkar created a prosperous democratic constitution for independent India, providing rights for equal development and eliminating disparities. His life serves as a great source of inspiration for all.

Retired principal Radha Krishna shared information about fundamental rights and provided educational guidance to the children. Retired superintendent Sohan Lal highlighted Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's significant role in the establishment of the Reserve Bank of India. NISSI Education Foundation's president Shriram Kashyap noted Dr. Ambedkar's emphasis on education and his life as a great source of

inspiration for students. Ambedkar's life is an extraordinary example for all, as he faced many challenges and achieved new milestones in various subjects. The event was attended by retired principal Radha Krishna, retired chief editor Ved Prakash, spokesperson Ramesh Kumar, retired superintendent Sohan Lal, social worker Durga Thapa (of Sutra NGO), Sai Village Panchayat head Mehr Chand, deputy head Prem Chand Dardi, former district council member Suman Lata, former deputy head Naseeb Chand Soni, retired subedar Ranjeet Singh, Rajkumar Bangar, Rajkumar Chauhan, Tarsem Lal, Dr. Baldev, Rajesh, Gurdayal Singh, and members of women's groups from Tali, Bavasni, Sunani, Teen Patta, Amru, and Talad, among other dignitaries.

People of Kangra are suffering political wrath of CM: Sanjay Sharma

SANJAY AGGARWAL
DHARAMSHALA: State BJP spokesperson Sanjay Sharma has said that State Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu should explain why the people of Dharamshala and Kangra district have suffered the consequences of political hatred for the last 15 months. Why does the Chief Minister have step-motherly behaviour towards the Central University on which the Congress Party had won the district by making it an issue? He asked why the government did not deposit Rs 30 crore to the Forest and Environment Department from July 2023 in lieu of deforestation. The political and social organizations, the intellectual class and the youth here have been continuously raising this issue for the last year. Sanjay Sharma said that haphazard construction work is going on under Smart City in Dharamshala in which there is no quality and accountability of any contractor or officer being fixed. The local MLA had also repeatedly demanded an investigation from Sanskar regarding these construction works. He had even demanded a CBI investigation into all these actions. After all, what is the compulsion of the Chief Minister that he is sitting with closed eyes on these construction works which have been going on for 15 months? He said that till now no big project has been given to Kangra within the Kangra district. Why is the Chief Minister doing political discrimination and administrative discrimination against Kangra and why are the people of Kangra being cheated?



Congress party lacks intent to provide Rs 1500 to women: Trilok

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, APRIL 16

BJP's former general secretary and MLA Trilok Jamwal criticized the Congress party, stating that they are the true anti-women party. He mentioned that statements from their senior leaders and actions by their chief minister and government confirm this. If their intentions were genuine, they would have immediately started providing Rs 1500 per month to women as soon as they formed the government. However, their intent lacked clarity, which is why their promise to begin providing Rs 1500 to women from the first cabinet meeting has not yet been fulfilled.



Trilok noted that the Congress's deceptive practices have emerged again, as they attempt to deceive every section of Himachal Pradesh. Multiple forms were filled out, but they provided no tangible benefits. He cited a previous election where the same leaders distributed a blue

form, yet women did not receive the promised Rs 1500 per month. Congress leaders allegedly sent the amount via Google Pay to win votes. If Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu had good intentions, he would have made budget provisions for providing Rs 1500 to women during Himachal Pradesh's budget session. However, he made no such provision, and soon after the session ended, he announced the scheme. Even this announcement lacks transparency, as it does not specify who will receive the Rs 1500 and who will not. Upon closer inspection, it seems that only those women who were already receiving self-sufficiency funds will benefit from the scheme.

HP Cong committee forms war room for Lok Sabha elections

DINESH AGARWAL
SHIMLA, APRIL 16

The Himachal Pradesh Congress Committee has established a war room for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. Congress secretary and head of the training department, Hari Krishna Himral, has been appointed as its vice-chairperson. He expressed gratitude for his appointment to All India Congress Committee in-charge Rajiv Shukla, Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri, Himachal Pradesh Congress President Pratibha Singh, All India Congress Committee spokesperson Kuldeep Rathore, All India Congress Committee joint



secretary Gokul Butail, Himachal Pradesh Congress working president Sanjay Awasthi, and media advisor Naresh Chauhan. The team selected by the high command consists of experienced and dedicated party officials. Himral has previously

served effectively and honestly in organizing the 2022 assembly elections. He successfully led the war room for the by-elections in 2021 for three assembly seats and one Lok Sabha seat, where the party defeated the ruling BJP 4-0. Himral plans to work closely with all dedicated party officials to counter any conspiracies by the BJP to topple the elected Congress government. He expressed confidence that the effective and transparent governance of the Sukhu government over the past 15 months, combined with the strong leadership of Rahul Gandhi and the national Congress manifesto, will enable them to comfortably win all four Lok Sabha seats in Himachal Pradesh.

Kali Mata Temple in Surajpur holds historical significance

SHANTI GAUTAM
BADDI, APRIL 16

The Mahlog region in the Doon Assembly constituency is home to many temples dedicated to various deities, but the Kali Mata temple in Surajpur village holds a unique place in history and significance. Nestled at the base of the hills along the Patta to Barotiwala road, Surajpur's picturesque beauty is captivating. During the reign of the Mahlog state, Surajpur was the winter capital of Mahlog, and the rulers established a temple dedicated to their family deity, Kali Mata. The temple was highly renowned during



the state's reign. Descendants of the Mahlog royal family, including Jitendra Singh Sisodia from Jodhpur, Rajasthan, and Khurminder Singh Sisodia from Patta, as well as Girdhari Lal Kahya, shared that their grandmother, Rani Purnamma Manjari, brought a black marble idol of Kali

Mata from her parental home in Kolkata, Bengal. In 1922, Rani and Raja Durga Chand had a small temple built in Surajpur and properly installed the idol. Later, in 1958, the last ruler of Mahlog, Rana Narendra Chand Sisodia, donated land for the construction of a larger temple below the

palace. Since 1922, regular worship has been held at the temple. The temple complex is home to a hundred-year-old banyan tree, and priests were traditionally compensated by the ruling family. People visit the temple throughout the year, with special events held during Navratri, attracting many devotees. Raj Kumar Sharma, a resident of Surajpur, shared that his family has been responsible for the temple's worship for generations. Starting with Pandit Raghuvar, then Ramesh, Kishori, Chet Ram, and then his father Prakash Chand Raj, the family has been serving as priests for the temple.

Modi's resolution letter is strong effort towards developed India: Trilok Kapoor

SANJAY AGGARWAL
DHARAMSHALA, APR 16

"Narendra Modi's resolution letter is a strong effort towards the resolution of a developed India". These words were expressed by BJP State General Secretary Trilok Kapoor while addressing a press conference organized in Palampur. He said that during the historic and golden tenure of Modi ji for a decade, many small and big decisions have been taken which have boosted India's self-respect and self-confidence. Today, we have seen the people of the country abolishing Article 370, and we have also seen 33% reservation in the Nari Shakti Act passed in the Parliament of the



country. Not only this, after a tough struggle of 500 years, a temple was built at the birth-place of Lord Ram in Ayodhya, the country and the world have also seen Ramlal sitting on the occasion of life consecration. He said that in the direction of the poor welfare

sector, the decision to provide free ration to 80 crore people by 2029 and to bring 25 crore people out of the poverty line is also a true commitment towards the poor. BJP State General Secretary said that a special campaign was launched for suggestions through resolution letters in this election. In which more than 15 lakh suggestions were received, four lakh messages were received through the NaMo app and 10 lakh messages were received through video. Kapoor said that earlier 10 lakh women had been linked with self-help groups, now they will be given education in IT education, tourism and retail. Not only this, one crore 'Lakhpati Didis' have

been made and three crores more Lakhpati Didis will be made, now 'Drone Didis' will also be prepared. In the field of education, a target has been set to open 700 Eklavya schools. From the tourism point of view, a target has also been set to build homestays for tribal families. From the point of view of transportation and goods, work on highways, railways, airways and waterways will also continue in a modern manner. In the event of an international war, India has already been brought back to safety from the security point of view and in the future, when such situations arise, India will again worry about the safety of its citizens on the same basis.

Allo members of Kothe panchayat join AAP with colleagues



BALWINDER AZAD BARNALA DEHATI: The entire Panchayat of Kothe Rajinderpura under Dhanula became a part of Aam Aadmi Party along with their colleagues. Apart from this, many other families left the traditional parties and joined the Aam Aadmi Party. As a large number of families are joining the party, the Aam Aadmi Party seems to be gaining the lead in the constituency. The large gatherings taking place every day in the constituency show the interest of the common people towards the party. On this occasion Hasanpreet Bhardwaj (OSD Meet Hair) assured the families joining the party that they will be given full respect by the party, are being provided.

MCM holds poster making competition on gender equality



CHANDIGARH: The Victory against Drug Abuse (VADA) Club of Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh, organised a Poster Making Competition on Gender Equality and Gender Sensitisation. The event aimed to commemorate the spirit of woman empowerment and foster awareness about the pressing issues surrounding gender equality. Students from various disciplines enthusiastically participated in the competition, showcasing their creativity and sensitivity through thought-provoking posters. The themes of the posters ranged from challenging gender stereotypes to advocating for equal rights and opportunities for all genders. The competition served as a platform for students to express their perspectives on gender equality and raise awareness about the importance of the same. The entries were judged on the basis of creativity, relevance to the theme, and effectiveness in conveying the message of gender equality.

Karamjit Anmol welcomed by women at Bajakhana



JAGDEEP SINGH GILL JAITO: Aam Aadmi Party's Lok Sabha candidate from Faridkot Karamjit Anmol arrived in different villages of Jaito assembly constituency to campaign. Constituency MLA Jaito Eng: Amolak Singh, film artist Sonia Mann and senior AAP leaders and workers of the area were present on this occasion. On this occasion, Karamjit Anmol was welcomed with ladoo at Kasba Bajakhana. On this occasion, Karamjit Anmol mentioned the development works done by the Aam Aadmi Party during the last two years and by promising to bring development works in the coming years, he asked for votes for the candidate Karamjit Anmol and won them by bringing them to the Lok Sabha. Invited to strengthen the hands of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann and Aam Aadmi Party.

Baisakhi festival celebrated at St. Xavier School Rampura Phul



KULJIT SINGH DHINGRA RAMPURA PHUL: Baisakhi festival was celebrated with great enthusiasm in St. Xavier School, Rampura Phul city under the leadership of Principal Father Eulalio Fernandez and Manager Father Andrew Fernandez. The program started with a religious word. The students of the school enchanted the audience sitting in the pandal by singing folk songs related to Baisakhi. Taking the program forward, an inter-house Punjabi dance competition of students was conducted. In which Sapphire House got the first place and Emerald House got the second place. Manager Father Andrew Fernandez explained the importance of Baisakhi and encouraged to celebrate the holy festivals together.

DBA Kapurthala remembers Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar



PAWAN KALA KAPURTHALA: District Bar Association, Kapurthala paid tribute to Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, the architect of the Indian constitution on today in the Bar room, District Courts Kapurthala. Hundreds of advocates under the leadership of DBA President Rajbir Singh Bawa and remembered his contribution in drafting the Indian constitution. Speaking on this occasion DBA President Rajbir Singh Bawa said that Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, a multifaceted individual, was born on April 14, 1891, dedicated to championing rights and dignity. Honored with Bharat Ratna, 'Jai Bhim' resonates respect. Celebrating Ambedkar Jayanti with curated collections.

DC Aashika Jain gives tips to under trainee officers for serving nation and state

SHASHI PAL JAIN
MOHALI, APR 16

As a part of training, 2022 Batch, Bihar Cadre IAS Officers, today, visited SAS Nagar and saw the working of administrative officers in the local District Administrative Complex.

Deputy Commissioner, Mrs Aashika Jain while welcoming these trainee elite services officers, apprised them of the administrative work being disposed of at various levels as a part of District Administration. She said that an IAS officer's first agenda should be the service of the Nation and the state, where he/she has been posted.

The Deputy Commissioner while sharing the routine of administrative duties with them said that redressal of the problems and grievances raised by the general public matters foremost as the society keeps such ambitions from us as an administrating authority.

The officers also got information on the SAS Nagar district and its overall de-



partment in the previous years. They were more interested in the planned development of the district in the wake of increasing urbanisation in the outskirts and evolution of new urban areas with the arrangements of accommodation.

The Deputy Commissioner said that the district has seen unprecedented development in the field of real es-

tate, the IT service sector and major industries based on pharmaceutical, tractor parts and other areas. She said that being an administrative officer, be it at district level or subdivision level, an officer has to work day and night to keep things in order. Coordination with other departments, particularly with police counterpart is a must to maintain the law

and order. The officers who were present on this occasion included ADC (G) Viraj S Tidke and Assistant Commissioner (Under Trainee) Davy Goyal and IAS under trainees from Bihar; Divya Shakti, Shreya Shree, Aashish Kumar, Kishley Kushwaha, Rituraj Pratap Singh, Gaurav Kumar, Kajale Vaibhav Nitin, Shweta Bharti, Gaurav Kumar.

Banwari Lal Purohit greets people on Ram Naumi

CHANDIGARH: The Punjab Governor and Administrator, Union Territory, Chandigarh, Shri Banwari Lal Purohit extended warm greetings to the people of Punjab and Chandigarh on the auspicious occasion of 'Ram Naumi', the birth-

day of Lord Rama. In a message, Shri Purohit said that Maryada Purushottam Ram is the embodiment of righteousness, virtue and compassion. Let us immerse ourselves in the divine teachings and noble virtues He symbolizes and

draw inspiration from Lord Rama's life and strive to uphold truth, kindness and unity in our lives. May this auspicious occasion bestow prosperity, peace and happiness on all, he added.

Many steps taken by United Shivalik Resident Welfare of Shivalik city residents



SHASHI PAL JAIN
KHARAR, APR 16

United Shivalik Resident Welfare Association Kharar has taken many steps for the welfare of the residents of Shivalik City.

Giving information in this regard, the president of the association, Advocate Piyush Vij, Chairman Harjit Singh, General Secretary Amandeep

Singh, Sandeep Singh, Chetan Vij, Mohit Verma, Abhishek, Anand Soni, Deshranj, Maninder, Gurjit Singh, Vikas Rana etc. said that due to the efforts of the association sewerage pipes have started to be laid hence Gate No. 1 has been closed for a few days.

They said that the work was not being done at a large scale in this society, so the

youth came forward and started the development work. They said that a new board has been painted at gate number 1 and rule and regulation boards have been installed everywhere. The squatters who had built permanent bases here were kicked out. Heavy vehicle entry has been closed. They said that steps are being taken to appoint a new security agency.

Rugby Training and Education Initiative in Punjab District

MANDI GOBINDGARH (KHUSHAV SINGLA): In the district, a free rugby training camp was organized for players along with providing advanced education for rugby coaches through a World Rugby course. Representatives from the Mixed Martial Arts School for Multiple Games completed the World Rugby course at Guru Nanak Dev University in Amritsar on April 14th. This initiative was supported by the Rugby Association of Punjab, Guru Nanak Dev University, and the Youth and Sports Department of the Government of India.

Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University organises career exhibitions at Government Schools

AJAY MALHOTRA
FATEHGARH SAHIB, APR 16

Career Exhibition, meticulously orchestrated by the eighth-semester students of the esteemed Department of Education, Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University Fatehgarh Sahib at Government Senior Secondary School Khera is significant initiative, spearheaded by Ms. Gurwinder Kaur and S. Parmeshwar Singh, Assistant Professors at the department.

Dr. Harneet Billing, In-charge Department of Education shared that the exhibition promises to be a transformative experience for both participants and attendees alike. Over the course of a week, this enriching event will unfold across a multitude of government and private schools within the region, offering a comprehensive exploration of various academic



disciplines and career pathways. The exhibition is designed to provide students with invaluable insights into diverse fields of study, allowing them to make informed decisions about their academic and professional futures.

Feedback from Ms. Gurjit Kaur, student Department of Education, involved in the organization of the exhibition has been overwhelmingly positive, with many expressing gratitude for the chance to apply their classroom knowledge in a real-world setting. Moreover, their enthusiasm

and dedication have undoubtedly contributed to the success of this endeavor, ensuring a seamless and impactful experience for all involved. Attendees, primarily school students, have exhibited remarkable curiosity and eagerness to explore the myriad of opportunities available to them.

Prof. Sukhwinder Singh Billing, Dean of Academic Affairs, commends the department's unwavering commitment to excellence and applauds their efforts in organizing such a significant event.

Joginder Singh Salariya performs final prayer ceremony for Baljeet Singh



SHWETA SHARMA
SUJANPUR, APR 16

Baljeet Singh's final prayer ceremony was conducted by Joginder Singh Salariya, the founder of the PCT Humanity Foundation. About two months ago, Baljeet Singh, a resident of Pathankot, passed away in Saudi Arabia.

A final prayer and tribute gathering were organized at Gurdwara Garib Nawaz Nathu Nagar, Pathankot. After hymns were sung by the ragi jatha of Gurdwara Garib Nawaz, Joginder Singh Salariya, the founder of the Peace Humanity Foundation, offered floral tributes, ex-

pressing deep sorrow over Baljeet Singh's untimely demise and prayed for the peace of his departed soul before the Almighty. Family members of the deceased Baljeet Singh expressed heartfelt gratitude to Joginder Singh Salariya for his legal assistance and financial support in repatriating Baljeet Singh's mortal remains from Saudi Arabia to Pathankot. Present at the event were Balvinder Singh, Sulvinder Singh, Amerik Singh, Hardyal Singh, Harpal Singh, Sarabjit Singh, Manohar Singh, Hemat Kumar, Charanjit Kaur, Surjit Kaur, Rajvinder Kaur, Gurbinder Kaur.

DC inspects wheat fields sown with surface seeder



SANGRUR (SUMER GARG): Deputy Commissioner(DC), Sangrur, Jitendra Jorwal today reviewed the status of wheat yield sown with surface seeders at Akal Seed Farm Mastuana Sahib. On this occasion, while expressing happiness he said that a good yield has been produced by sowing through a surface seeder. He further said that the cost of wheat sown by conventional methods is usually more, but through surface seeder, where wheat is sown with a tractor of less horse power, along with this, the time for sowing this method a lot of time is also saved. DC said that due to the absence of weeds in the wheat sown with a surface seeder, there is a saving in agricultural expenses and the wheat sown in the normal way often falls due to bad weather or other reasons, but with this technology, the wheat crop does not fall at the time of wheat harvesting and it turns out to be very beneficial. DC further said that the height of the wheat plant is also big and it is felt that the production will also be more. He said that due to burning of stubble after harvesting of paddy, where there is harm to health due to poisonous gases in the environment, the friendly insects in the soil also die, which reduces the fertility of the land, also the sowing of wheat during the rabi season and it gets late which also affects the yield.

AAP govt in Punjab has failed to establish its cadre at lower level: Mahajan

VERMA
GURDASPUR, APR 16

By giving a heavy mandate to the Aam Aadmi Party in Punjab in 2022, the voters of Punjab formed the Aam Aadmi Party government in Punjab under the leadership of Sardar Bhagwant Singh Mann.

The situation has failed due to which the Aam Aadmi Party has to take the support of its ministers and MLAs in the Lok Sabha elections. Expressing these points, senior Congress leader Kishan Chander Mahajan said that Amandeep Singh in district Gurdaspur. Instead of Sari Kalsi, instead of giving attention to the experienced leaders who lost in the assembly elections of Aam Aadmi Party, it is beyond the under-

standing of common people to trust an MLA. Sardar Bhagwant Singh Maan and this saying is completely appropriate Chaud Mahajan said that due to the law and order situation in Punjab, the people of Punjab, especially women, farmers, unemployed youth, Dalits, traders, have become disillusioned with the Aam Aadmi Party due to the non-fulfilment of the promise of giving Rs 1,00,000 per month to



women. The intelligent voters of Punjab have once again turned towards the Congress Party, due to which the Congress Party will dust all the opposition parties in the Lok Sabha elections in Punjab and will give its full effort to solve the problems of the people of Punjab on priority basis. Will not back down.

IVF congratulates Savitri Jindal, Chairman of MAMC Agroha

SUMER GARG
DABWALI, APR 16

Representatives of the International Vaish Federation (IVF) have congratulated former Haryana Government Revenue Minister, Savitri Jindal for being unanimously elected as the Chairman of Governing body of Maharaja Agrasen Medical College(MAMC), Agroha for the third time.

IVF Punjab Pradesh President, Surinder Singla said that OP Jindal, former MP from Kurukshetra and Naveen Jindal, former MP from Kurukshetra have also been the chairman of MAMC, Agroha. During their tenure, this institute has gained an important place in North India by providing good health services to hundreds of needy patients coming here for medical aid.



He said that in this institute, which is running under the able leadership of Savitri Jindal, many important medical centers have been established for medical facilities by the Jindal family from time to time spending huge amounts from their personal funds.

He further said that according to the report of the National Medical Commission, this institute has got the first position in Industry and Business, the forum was well attended by CAs, CFOs from the corporate sector along with entrepreneurs who were appraised about the current state of accountancy and the latest tools in the sector. Tandon, himself a CA by profession, in his address emphasized that along with their utter commitment, the CAs, like other professionals, also need to be united in the progress of the country. Tandon, who qualified as a CA in 1986, shared the untouched aspects of his professional career.

congratulations. Singla said that there is an atmosphere of happiness in the society as Savitri Jindal has appointed prominent social worker Pawan Garg, son of former MLA, OP Garg, Kurukshetra as the General Secretary of this institute.

He said that all the major medical departments have established in this institute and are providing their best services. Even during the Corona period, this institute has established its own identity by providing free treatment to the patients suffering from Corona.

Kanjak Puja performed for 251 girls by Sri Bala Ji Langar Seva Samiti and Welfare Society

SURINDER DAMDAMI
KOTKAPURA, APR 16

Kanjak Puja was performed for 251 girls at Navi Anaj Mandi on the auspicious occasion of Shri Durga Ashtami on behalf of Shri Balaji Langar Seva Samiti and Welfare Society today. Giving information at this time, the president of the society, Karan Goyal, contractor and chairman, Deepak Goyal, said that this is our second Kanjak Puja on behalf of the committee and Kanjak Puja was performed by our society in the last Navratri too.

He said that today Kanjak Puja was performed for 251 girls of migrant workers living in slums and stationery such as copies, pencils, erasers etc. were also distributed to them as gifts. The organization's general secretary Shushat Bansal,

secretary Shubham Garg, treasurer Akash Garg and PRO Chandra Kumar Garg said that during today's program Ashok Goyal, president of Aartiya Association, Rajan Garg, president of pesticide union, social worker Darpan Chopra, Jai Hanuman Prashad, Brahm Prakash Sharma, GABA, Brothers Vishal Chopra, Krishna Bahl have given a lot of support. He said that the main objective of our organization is to serve the people and help the needy people and distributing stationery to these children means creating a desire to study in them. Patron of the organization Pandit Ram Sharma said that on the occasion of Makar Sankranti, our committee organized marriages of five needy girls, held camps at different times.

'Hamara Parivar' holds blood donation camp



RAJENDRA KHATRY
CHANDIGARH, APR 16

A blood donation camp was organized by 'Hamara Parivar' under the patronage and 'Marg darshan' of Neeraj Makkar, Prant Sampark Parmukh of Sehkar Bharti Haryana and Sanch Parmukh of 'Hamara Parivar' organisation Chandigarh unit on Sunday which is a wing of the RSS. Total 96 units of blood was collected during the camp. During this drive, 96 donors from all walks of life donated their blood for the cause of humanity and to serve the needy pa-

tients of the society. In this camp, volunteers of Shree Shiv Kanwar Mahasangh Charitable Trust Co-ordinated with the organising committee of 'Hamara Parivar' Chandigarh unit.

The spirit behind holding this blood donation camp was 'Seva', Sangthan and 'Savdeshi' which is the main motive of 'Hamara Parivar' besides to instil patriotism among the Indian citizens. Refreshments and gifts were also distributed to all the blood donors as a mark of respect and for thanking them after blood was donated by them.

Along with PM Modi's economic reforms, CA's contribution to national growth is commendable: Sanjay Tandon



GAURAV GOEL
CHANDIGARH, APR 16

The public interest economic policies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi which helped India to be inducted in the list of prosperous economies of the world blends well the responsible and vigilant role of Chartered Accountants.

Their roles cant be ignored. These sentiments were expressed by Sanjay Tandon, the keynote speaker and candidate in the Lok Sabha elections from Chandigarh, during his address during the CFO Next Forum 2024 organized at Hotel Hyatt Regency on Monday's night. Organised by nationwide apex

body of Chartered Accountants - The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)'s Committee for Members in Industry and Business, the forum was well attended by CAs, CFOs from the corporate sector along with entrepreneurs who were appraised about the current state of accountancy and the latest tools in the sector. Tandon, himself a CA by profession, in his address emphasized that along with their utter commitment, the CAs, like other professionals, also need to be united in the progress of the country. Tandon, who qualified as a CA in 1986, shared the untouched aspects of his professional career.

DIG Bhullar holds meeting for fair, peaceful LSE- 2024

SUMER GARG
SANGRUR, APR 14

Harcharan Singh Bhullar, IPS, DIG Patiala Range, Patiala held a special meeting with all Gazetted officers, SHO's, In-charge Police Posts and Special units of Sangrur at the conference hall, Police lines, here today.

In the meeting Bhullar while discussing the crime in detail also reviewed the security arrangements related to the upcoming Lok Sabha Elections-2024 (LSE- 2024). On the occasion, he issued various instructions to ensure transparent, fair and peaceful conduct of elections in the district. Guidelines regarding the strict implementation of Model Code of Conduct were also issued. He said that a special drive should be launched to arrest Pro-



claimed offenders and Absconders (POs), Bail-Jumpers and Parole Jumpers, ensure 100% compliance of Non-Bailable Warrants (NBWs) as per the instructions and directions of the Election Commission.

Flag marches should be conducted in the district using 75% of the force of the district and companies of the Central Armed Police Force(CAPF), so that the con-

fidence in the general public during the elections is to be built. The inter-state border with Haryana should be kept under special check by installing check posts for 24 hours to prevent smuggling of illicit liquor, drugs and cash during elections.

All the link roads should also be monitored through Flying Squad Teams and Patrolling parties round the clock.

Sukhpal Khaira's candidature energizes Congress in Sangrur for Lok Sabha Elections

ASHOK DHINGRA
TA PA MANDI : Not much familiar with Malwa region, Sukhpal Singh Khaira's candidature from Sangrur for the Lok Sabha election gave a boost to congress workers. A number of party leaders and workers from various towns and villages falling in this constituency call him the best candidate to take an opponents in the home district of Punjab chief minister Bhagwant Mann, especially going by the stand he has taken against, the state government and the centre. He won in the 2022 assembly elections as a congress candidate and since then the way he has taken on the ruling dispensation is being hailed by the people. They are coming from and announcing the stand by him. I all, he is the perfect candidate to take on all the remaining candidates of the Sangrur Lok Sabha Seat.

National Lok Adalat will be held on May 11 at District Courts

KULDEEP SOOD
BARNALA: National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), New Delhi and Punjab State Legal Services Authority SAS. Nagar's instructions and Mr. B.B.S. Expediently, National Lok Adalat is being held on 11th May 2024 at District Courts Barnala under the leadership of Hon'ble District and Sessions Judge - including - Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, Barnala. Giving information in this regard, Civil Judge (S.D.)/JM-cum-Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Barnala Mr. Gurbir Singh ji said that common people should take maximum benefit of this national Lok Adalat, and to settle their pending cases through mutual agreement. He also said that this saves money and time for both parties and increases mutual brotherhood. Any person who wants to get his case settled through Lok Adalat can get his dispute settled through this Lok Adalat by filing an application at the concerned court or District Legal Services Authority Barnala.

SDM starts purchase of wheat at Bassi Pathana Anaj Mandi



RAJINDER SHARMA
BASSI PATHANA : SDM Sanjeev Kumar visited the new grain market and initiated government procurement of wheat. SDM Sanjeev Kumar directed the officials of the Market Committee to maintain cleanliness in the markets, provide adequate seating, and drinking water for the farmers. He assured that the farmers will not face any issues in the market, and the payment for wheat, including its lifting, will be carried out according to government rules. Instructing the officials not to be lax in wheat procurement, he encouraged farmers to bring their crops to the market after drying them to ensure smooth selling.

PM Modi trying to defend biggest corruption scandal: Rahul Gandhi

AGENCY KOZHIKODE, APRIL 16

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday attacked Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the electoral bond scheme and said that he is trying to defend the biggest corruption scandal.

Addressing public at a roadshow in Kozhikode, Rahul Gandhi said, "I don't know if you saw his face, his eyes, he was trying to defend the biggest corruption scandal on the planet through which BJP has got thousands of crores of rupees by extorting them from India's businessmen."

In an interview with ANI, PM Modi said the electoral bonds scheme was aimed at curbing black money in elections and said the opposition wants to run away after making allegations. PM Modi said that "everyone will



regret it when there is an honest reflection."

The Supreme Court in February this year struck down the electoral bond scheme and said it was unconstitutional.

Rahul Gandhi further mentioned that Prime Minister's goal is to distract people from real issues.

"That is why sometimes you will see him doing puja underneath the sea, sometimes he tells the people of India we will bring the

Olympics to India. Another time he will say we are going to send one man to the Moon. He never talks about unemployment or price rise. He protects the richest people in the country and forgives their bank loans," he said.

He also alleged that Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh and BJP are keen on changing the Constitution.

"The RSS and the BJP are trying to destroy India's Constitution and change India's Constitution. The

Webinar on information on drug abuse and its treatment organised

DALJEET AJNOHA
HOSHARPUR: As per the instructions of the Health and Family Welfare Department, Punjab and Hon'ble Deputy Commissioner cum Chairperson, Smt. Komal Mittal, IAS and under the leadership of Dr. Harbans Kaur, Deputy Medical Commissioner, information regarding treatment of Drug Addiction was given to the staff of Aam Aadmi Clinics, Civil Dispensary and Urban

Civil Dispensary of Hoshiarpur District. On this occasion, Dr. Rohit Bruta M.O. cum Nodal Officer Civil Dispensary Hoshiarpur Urban was specially present. On this occasion, Parshant Aadiya, Counsellor Government Rehabilitation Center and Dr. Sukhpreet Kaur, Psychiatric Social Worker Drug De-addiction Center, Civil Hospital, Hoshiarpur were present as resource person. An online webinar on Drug-Addiction and

its treatment was organized for staff of all Aam Aadmi Clinics, Civil Dispensaries, Medical Officers, Pharmacists, Clinical Assistants, Asha, ANs and Ward Attendants on this occasion. The main objective of this webinar is to give maximum information about drug abuse and to create awareness about the correct treatment so that the youth of the beautiful Punjab can be saved. The staff was also present on the occasion.

Lotus will bloom in Haryana's 10 Lok Sabha seats: Banto Kataria

MANISH KUMAR AMBALA, APRIL 16

At a press conference held at the BJP office in Ambala city, BJP Lok Sabha candidate Banto Kataria highlighted the progress India has made under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership over the last decade. Kataria called for the Bharatiya Janata Party to be elected with a decisive majority once again to transform India into a developed nation by 2047.

Kataria presented an overview of the BJP's achievements over the past decade and outlined new promises for the upcoming elections. She emphasized the party's commitment to empowering rural women by helping one crore women become lakhpati didis and stated that the goal is to empower three crore rural women in the next term.

Initiatives to integrate women's self-help groups (SHGs) with the service sector were mentioned, as



well as the plan to connect SHG products directly with customers. The BJP also aims to construct hostels to construct facilities like daycare centers for working women in industrial and commercial areas. To increase women's participation in sports, the BJP plans to construct and maintain public restrooms. Special attention will be given to women's health issues such as anemia, breast cancer, osteoporosis, and cervical cancer. A special campaign will be launched to completely eliminate cervical cancer in women. Kataria

discussed the expansion of Shakti Desks (women's help desks) at police stations to ensure timely investigation and resolution of complaints. The BJP will enhance the emergency response support system by expanding the capacity of emergency helpline 112. Kataria highlighted the construction of new railway lines and the expansion of passenger and cargo transport capabilities. The BJP plans to add 5,000 km of new railway tracks annually and expand the network of world-class trains such as Vande Bharat, Amrit Bharat, and Namoo Bharat.

RBU, NMSU sign MoU to forge strategic collaboration

LK BANSAL
MOHALI: Rayat Bahra University (RBU) is thrilled to announce collaboration with New Mexico State University (NMSU), marking a significant milestone in the partnership between these institutions. A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed today at the premises of Rayat Bahra University.

The presence of representatives from NMSU, including Seth Miner, Vice-Chancellor of Strategic Enrolment Management; Enrico Pontelli, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences; and Ronaldo A Flores Galarza, Dean & CAO of the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, underscores the importance of this partnership.



Chancellor Gurminder Singh Bahra, Vice-Chancellor Dr Parvinder Singh, Registrar Dr Dinesh Sharma, and Head of International affairs Gurmukh Rana, among other dignitaries from RBU were present at the MoU signing ceremony. Discussions between the top functionaries of the two universities centered on potential areas of collaboration and culminated in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to

formalize future cooperation between the two institutions.

This collaboration holds immense significance for both RBU and NMSU, signifying a pivotal step towards fostering international partnerships and enhancing academic excellence. The NMSU's hybrid programs, combining online and on-campus learning, offer students an affordable and accessible avenue for pursuing quality education.

One-day workshop organized by Training Planning and Monitoring Cell and Information Technology Cell in KU



DALBIR MALIK

KURUKSHETRA: Training Planning & Monitoring Cell KUK in collaboration with the Information Technology Cell KUK organized a One Day Workshop on APAAR (ABC ID) and Result uploading on DigiLocker. Wherein, Sh. Shubham Sharma, Business Executive, Academic Bank of Credits, Digital India Corporation, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), Govt. of India was invited as Resource Person. Dr. Ankeshwar Prakash acted as the co-ordinator of the Workshop. The workshop was attended by Dr. Ankeshwar Prakash (Nodal Officer, DigiLocker Cell & C.O.E.-II), Prof. Pardeep Kumar (Nodal Officer, RUSA 2.0 & Co-ordinator, IUMS), Dr. Pardeep Kumar (Director I.T. Cell), Dr. Poonam Chaudhary (System Programmer, DigiLocker Cell) along with the Team IUMS and Examination Lab Team and I.T. Cell Team.

Oath-taking ceremony for first-time voters held at BBPUCC, Balachaur



JATINDER PAL SINGH KALER BALACHAUR, APRIL 16

Baba Balraj Panjab University Constituent College, Balachaur (BBPUCC) conducted an oath-taking ceremony for first-time voters in anticipation of the upcoming Lok Sabha Elections 2024. Lead by Nodal Officer Prof. Gurdeep Kaur and Sector Officer Prof. Ramandeep Nahar, the event witnessed active participation from first time voters of the college. The pledge showcasing its commitment to the principles of democracy was delivered by Prof. Nandini Moadgil. The students took the oath to rise above the barriers of caste, religion and gender and vote fairly in the upcoming elections. The presence of professors Prof. Sukhjit Nahar, Anjali Pathak, Tamanna Kewal, Dakshi Jain, and Raghav Jain further underscored the significance of the occasion. As the nation braces itself for the Lok Sabha Elections 2024, such events serve as reminders of the values of democracy.

'Mission Day - 2024' celebrated on grand scale by Trident Group

KARANPREET KARAN/ KULDEEP SOOD BARNALA, APRIL 16

Trident Group, a global leader in textile manufacturing, celebrated its foundation day on a grand scale. A cultural event was presented and bhangra played by the employees of Trident Group for the entertainment of the people in the Arun Memorial Hall, while a colorful cultural program was presented by the children of different schools of the city and not listening loudly. And not even speech disabled children presented their presentation on the occasion of the foundation day. Meanwhile, adequate security arrangements were made and police personnel were deployed everywhere by the administration and traffic police were also



deployed. A star night of famous Sufi Kawal and singer Lakhwinder Wadali was organized there. In which an open invitation was given to the people of the city. Where in the meantime, with his songs and qawalis Main Te Ghio Di Churi, Naina De Buhe, Halka Halka, Tu Mane Jaa Mane Dildara, Charkha, Us Aak Paal Chan Aave, Sonene Kangana, Ankh Se Ankh by

Lakhwinder Wadali. Entertained and left a distinct impression on the hearts of the people with Sufi Kwalyas and entertained the people by dancing to songs and Kwalyas. Meanwhile, food stalls were arranged by the Trident Group for the convenience of the people. Open parking lot and all kinds of basic facilities were also arranged there for the people.

SS Batra discribes BJP menifesto as 'jumla paper'

RAJNI SONI YAMUNA NAGAR, APRIL 16

In a recent press conference, Shyam Sunder Batra, the coordinator of District Congress and former district council chairman of Yamuna Nagar, criticized the BJP manifesto, calling it a "jumla paper." He stated that BJP's senior leaders have themselves referred to their manifesto as "jumla" and accused the party of showing false dreams to the public and betraying their trust. He also accused the BJP of holding anti-democratic views and attempting to intimidate the country's business community. Batra questioned how the BJP could expect votes from the poor when they had previously kept people in queues for years. He also criticized the central government's implementation of GST on essential goods



such as milk, curd, and other food items, which he said has caused distress to the city's poor and middle class. Batra highlighted how the BJP forgives loans worth crores for big businesses but has nothing to offer the middle class and farmers. In contrast, he praised the Congress party's manifesto, which he said was thoughtfully prepared by former Congress President Rahul Gandhi after understanding the sentiments

of people during his travels across the country. Batra expressed confidence that the Congress party would form a majority government in both the state and the nation. He praised National General Secretary and former Union Minister Kumari Selja as a leader recognized across all communities in Haryana and said she would lead the party's election campaign across the state's parliamentary constituencies.

RR Bawa DAV College for Girls, Batala participates in 'IIC Calendar Activity-I' at CGC Landran, Mohali

VERMA
BATALA: Under the patronage of Dr. Ekta Khosla, Principal, RR BawaDAV College for Girls, Batala and under the able guidance of Harish Shrama (Vice President IIC), the college participated as a mentee institute in "IIC calendar Activity-I" organized by CGC, Landran, Mohali in online mode. There were two sessions on 'How to plan for start-up and legal & Ethical Steps', during which the resource persons 'Anuradha Sharma (Founder & CEO, B better HR Solutions Coo, Punjab Angels Network) and CA Sahil Makkar (Chairman & CEO, Punjab Angels, Network) shared their views in the sphere of start-up ecosystems. During the first session, the expert focused on entrepreneurship, its important parameters and mindset needed to improvise a new start-up and provided guidelines on idea generation techniques. In the second session, the resource person discussed about start-ups, legal basics and talked about several initiatives taken by the



'Govt. of India' to encourage and promote the growth of startups in order to promote the entrepreneurship and employability. While sharing her views on this occasion, Principal Dr. Ekta Khosla stated that these sessions on entrepreneurship and start-ups are essential as they pave new opportunities for the entrepreneurs to create better job opportunities while ensuring improvement in economical circumstances.

With blessings of public, results on June 4 will be in favor of INLD: Abhay Chautala

KAPILARORA
SHAHABAD MARKANDA: INLD's Kurukshetra Lok Sabha candidate Abhay Chautala said in a program organized by former INLD Assembly candidate Sandeep Ajranan in village Ajranan Kalan late on Monday evening that a wave of change has swept across the state. Chautala said that the candidate of India Alliance will not get even 60 thousand votes from the entire Lok Sabha constituency. But the alliance candidate is taking big jibes at others while his party chief is sitting in jail due to the liquor scam. The people of Kurukshetra Lok Sabha have completely rejected other candidates. He said that



considering the love and blessings he is getting from the people of Kurukshetra Lok Sabha, the results of Kurukshetra on June 4 will definitely be in favor of INLD. Abhay Chautala said that the people have seen the rule of Congress and BJP and are remembering the rule of INLD. Chautala said that INLD has always talked about respect for

farmers, poor, lower class, youth and elders. Whereas other parties have given unemployment to the youth and sticks to the farmers. Earlier, the organizer of the program Sandeep Ajranan, former Sarpanch Mangeram, Gurinda Bachhal welcomed Abhay Chautala with flowers and garlands.

Strict instructions for election duty by District Officer

KHUSHAV SINGLA MANDI GOBINDGARH, APRIL 16

District Election Officer-cum-Deputy Commissioner Ms. Parneet Shergill has issued strict instructions to all officials and employees involved in Lok Sabha election duties, emphasizing that any form of negligence or misconduct during election duty will be dealt with severely. She stated that under Section 134 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, appropriate action will be taken against any official/employee found guilty of any laxity or irresponsible behaviour during election duties. The District Election Officer mentioned that provision exists under Section 134 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, to take suitable action against any official/employee displaying any kind of laxity or irresponsibility during election duties. She directed all officials and employees to understand that elections are the most important celebration of our robust democracy, and it is a time when citizens exercise their constitutional right to vote for their government. Therefore, she stressed the need for all individuals to fulfil their duties with utmost honesty and dedication.



Editorial

Pick peace

A widely-anticipated attack by Iran on Israel, using more than 300 missiles and drones, has significantly raised fears of a broad regional conflict emerging from Israel's war on Gaza with implications that extend well beyond the Middle East. Israel, with help from the United States of America and the United Kingdom, managed to shoot down almost all of the Iranian projectiles. Jordan also shot down some missiles that passed through its airspace. Yet, Tehran's attack, which followed the Israeli bombing of an Iranian consulate in Damascus, Syria, on April 1, in which eight people were killed, including two Iranian generals, has raised the risks of a military escalation that could suck in multiple other nations. Israel has said it is weighing its options for retaliation. Iran has already warned that any fresh strike from Israel will invite more attacks from Tehran. Washington has reportedly told Tel Aviv that it will not support any Israeli attack on Iran, even as the US Congress is likely to discuss fresh aid for Tel Aviv.

While many critics of the Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, have accused him of trying to provoke a wider conflict to hold on to power amid mounting domestic opposition, Mr Netanyahu and his team will be well aware of the risks of a war that spins out of control. Iran, which had attacked Israel through proxy militant groups but not directly before, also knows well that any further escalation is not in its interests: Israel's powerful military could embarrass Iran in ways that could shake up the credibility of the Islamic republic. But in the current, surcharged atmosphere, all it needs is one miscalculation to nudge countries off script. Already, the wider consequences of the tensions are becoming clear — from the 17 Indian sailors captured by Iran when it seized an Israel-linked ship last week near the Strait of Hormuz to the multiple flight disruptions resulting from countries closing their air space near Iran and Israel. The oil market and the shipping industry, already on edge because of the Gaza war, will take deep hits from any military confrontation. The US, China, Russia and other major powers — as also nations like India — must immediately push for a region-wide ceasefire. The world can only afford to pick one side in this crisis: that of peace.

China plays backstop to Russia's war against Ukraine

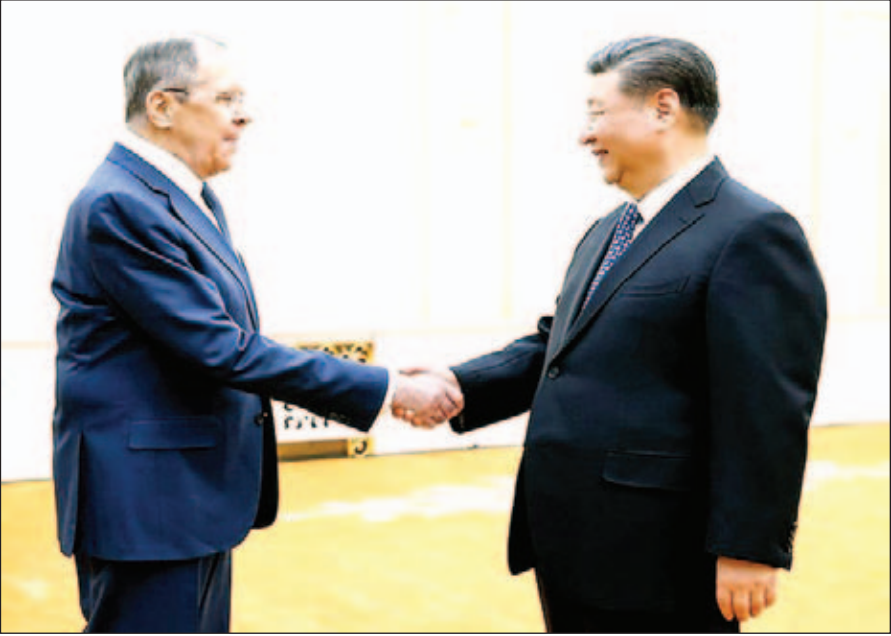
China insists it "has always maintained an objective and impartial position" on Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Yet, contrary to these words of assurance, China is aiding and abetting Russia's war of aggression against the Ukrainian people.

The rhetoric from China is sharply at odds with its actions. A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman claimed last year that "As for military item exports, China has throughout adopted a prudent and responsible attitude". However, such statements are laughable in the face of mounting evidence that says otherwise.

As violence flares in the Middle East, exacerbated by Iran's barrage against Israel, some are naively suggesting that China should help mediate there too. As J. Michael Cole, Senior Advisor, Countering Foreign Authoritarian Influence at the Washington DC-based International Republican Institute, commented: "That sure hasn't worked with Russia over its war of aggression against Ukraine. Nor did it work with North Korea. When will the world stop living under the illusion that Beijing will be a partner for peace?"

Disclosing previously classified intelligence, senior US officials have claimed that China is helping bankroll Russia's resurgent military-industrial complex. After starting cautiously after Vladimir Putin's invasion, China has been gradually ramping up clandestine support for Russia. It is helping plug gaps by rebuilding Russia's defence industrial base. Indeed, there is alarm that Russia is now achieving its most massive military-industrial expansion since the end of the Cold War. For instance, General Chris Cavoli, commander of the US European Command, recently testified that Russia has been "quite successful" at re-constituting its military.

Indeed, its capacity has largely "grown



back" to what it was pre-invasion despite Western sanctions. President Joe Biden raised precisely this issue with Chairman Xi Jinping in a phone call on 2 April. According to a US readout of the conversation, Biden "raised concerns over the People's Republic of China's [PRC] support for Russia's defence industrial base and its impact on European and transatlantic security".

There is now a concerted message from US government officials alleging that China is largely responsible for this build-up in Russia's defence industry. As one example, Moscow is now able to produce three times the artillery ammunition that the USA and

Europe combined can.

Last week, US officials divulged some of the ways that China is lending support. For instance, Chinese and Russian groups are working to jointly produce drones inside Russia. They also mentioned cruise missile and drone engines, as well as machine tools that are needed to manufacture ballistic missiles. Moscow used to get its machine tools from Europe, but sanctions turned off that conduit. Regardless, it has found alternative and willing suppliers, and nearly 70 per cent of Russia's USD 900 million worth of machine tool imports in the last quarter of 2023 emanated from China.

The USA has complained that Dalian Machine Tool Group has provided tooling to Russia. Other guilty parties for items used in military equipment include Wuhan Global Sensor Technology, Wuhan Tongsheng Technology and Hikvision, which are providing optical components that can be used on armored vehicles, for instance. iRay Technology and the North China Research Institute of Electro-Optics have also supplied military optics.

Electronic components are flowing Russia-ward from China too. Where Western companies have stopped supplying items like semiconductors, China has stepped in to fill the gap. Hong Kong, for instance, is a vital conduit of computer chips to Russia. So much so, that China supplied 90 per cent of computer chips imported by Russia last year. These are critical for things such as targeting systems and radars. Additionally, Russian semiconductor imports from China soared from USD200 million in 2021 to more than USD500 million in 2022.

Chinese entities are also helping boost Russia's satellite and other space-based capabilities. Media have reported that China has supplied Russia with propellant for use in missiles, nitrocellulose (used to make gunpowder for artillery rounds, for example), avionics and fighter jet engine parts too. Another widely reported export from China to Russia is drones and associated spare parts.

Molfar, a Ukrainian business intelligence consultancy, has reported that devices from DJI — the world's largest maker of consumer market drones — continue to flood into Russia, despite DJI's promise in 2022 to stop doing business there. Molfar alleged that low-cost DJI drones are being sold to Russian companies such as Skymec, SHUBBA-Octagon and Pustelga to train government and military personnel on how to fly drones.

Literature & Health

Petrol at Rs 293.94, diesel at 290.38 per litre in Pakistan



The Pakistani government announced an increase in the price of petrol by Pakistani currency (PKR) 4.53 per litre and that of high-speed diesel (HSD) by PKR 8.14 per litre for the next fortnight ending April 30, Dawn reported on Monday.

In the latest price revision, the petrol price was increased to PKR 293.94 per litre from PKR 289.41.

Additionally, the HSD price was increased to PKR 290.38 per litre for the next 15 days, compared to PKR 282.24 over the past fortnight, Dawn reported.

The decision, announced in a notification from Pakistan's finance ministry, said that price variations were worked out by the Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority based on price variations in the international market.

Petrol is mostly used in private transport, small vehicles, rickshaws, and two-wheelers and has a direct bearing on

the budgets of the middle and lower-middle classes.

Dawn reported that most of the transport sector runs on HSD. Its price is considered inflationary as it is mostly used in heavy transport vehicles, trains and agricultural engines like trucks, buses, tractors, tube wells and threshers and particularly adds to the prices of vegetables and other eatables.

The government did not announce the prices of kerosene and light diesel oil (LDO). Kerosene is mostly used by unscrupulous elements to mix with petrol and, to some extent, for lighting in very remote areas, while LDO is consumed by flour mills and a couple of power plants.

Earlier, informed sources said the prices of petrol and HSD had increased in the international market by about USD 4 and USD 4.50 per barrel, respectively, during the last fortnight, before the latest escalation.

Decisive action on UN Security Council reform sought



India on Tuesday called for decisive action on Security Council reform, championing an inclusive framework that truly represents the dynamic global landscape of today. During the 6th round of the intergovernmental negotiations on Security Council reform on Tuesday (local time), the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations in New York, Ruchira Kamboj said, "India is in favour of expansion of UN Security Council membership in both the permanent and non permanent categories, as we believe that this is the only way to achieve genuine reform of the Security Council and make it legitimate, representative, responsive and effective."

She said that India needs a council that caters to the geographical and developmental diversity of the United Nations today.

"In a nutshell, we need a reformed Security Council that better reflects the geographical and developmental diversity of the United Nations today. A security council where the voices of developing countries and unrep-

resented regions, including Africa, Latin America and the vast majority of Asia and the Pacific, also find their due place at the horseshoe table. And for this, an expansion of the council in both categories of membership is absolutely essential," she said.

Kamboj underlined that India's position is widely supported by the majority of the member states, adding that "this fact is on record in the 2015 framework document on the issue of categories of membership."

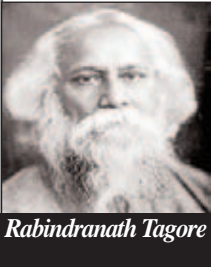
"A total of 113 member states out of 122 who submitted their positions in the framework document supported expansion in both of the existing categories specified in the charter. This means that more than 90 per cent of the written submissions in the document were in favour of expansion in both categories of membership specified in the charter," Kamboj emphasised.

"On the contrary, longer term non permanent seats, which was an idea mooted during the inception of the United nations to only be discarded due to its ineffectiveness.

POEM

Authorship

You say that father write a lot of books, but what he writes I don't understand. He was reading to you all evening, but could you really



Rabindranath Tagore

make out what he meant?

What nice stores, mother, you can tell us! Why can't father write like that, I wonder?

Did he never hear from his own mother stories of giants and fairies and princesses?

Has he forgotten them all?

Often when he gets late for his bath you have to call him a hundred times.

Rabindranath Tagore

Researchers discover brain region involved in control of attention

In a new study, researchers at the University of Iowa linked a brain region to how humans adjust their thoughts and attention when distracted. The link is significant because it provides insights into the cognitive and behavioural adverse effects of a treatment used to treat Parkinson's sufferers.

The study, "The human subthalamic nucleus transiently inhibits active attentional processes," was published online March 4 in the journal Brain.

The subthalamic nucleus is a pea-sized brain area that controls our movements. These motions have been hampered in Parkinson's patients: researchers believe the subthalamic nucleus, which normally acts as a brake on abrupt movement, is exerting too much influence. Researchers believe that over-



active brakes contribute to the disease's tremors and other motor deficits.

In recent years, clinicians have treated Parkinson's patients with deep-

brain stimulation, an electrode implanted in the subthalamic nucleus that rhythmically generates electrical signals, causing the brain region to loosen

its braking, freeing up movement. The deep brain stimulation system is like a pacemaker for the heart; once implanted, it runs continuously.

"The technique is truly miraculous, frankly," says Jan Wessel, associate professor in the departments of Psychological and Brain Sciences and Neurology at Iowa. "People come in with Parkinson's, surgeons turn the electrode on, and their tremor goes away. Suddenly they can hold their hands steady and go play golf. It's one of those blockbuster treatments where, when you see it in action, it really makes you believe in what the neuroscience community is doing." Yet some patients treated with deep brain stimulation have been beset by an inability to focus attention and impulsive thoughts, sometimes leading to risky be-

haviors such as gambling and substance use. Researchers began to wonder: Did the subthalamic nucleus' role in movement also mean this same brain region may deal with thoughts and impulse control?

Wessel decided to find out. His team designed an experiment gauging the focus of attention of more than a dozen Parkinson's patients when the deep brain stimulation treatment was either activated or idle. The participants, outfitted with a skull cap to track their brain waves, were instructed to fix their attention on a computer screen while the brain waves in their visual cortex were being monitored. About one in five times, in a random order, the participants heard a chirping sound, meant to divert their visual attention from the

screen to the newly introduced audial distraction.

In a 2021 study, Wessel's group established that brain waves in participants' visual cortex dropped when they heard a chirp, meaning their attention had been diverted by the sound. By interchanging instances when there was a chirp or no sound, the researchers could see when attention had been diverted, and when the focus of visual attention had been maintained.

The team turned their attention to the Parkinson's groups for this study. When the deep brain stimulation was idle and the chirp was sounded, the Parkinson's patients diverted their attention from the visual to the auditory systems—just as the control group had done in the previous study.

Motorola Edge 50 Ultra, Edge 50 Fusion With 50-Megapixel Main Cameras Launched

Motorola Edge 50 Ultra and Edge 50 Fusion were launched globally on Tuesday. The handsets are equipped with Qualcomm Snapdragon chipsets and Pantone-validated displays and cameras. The Ultra model is equipped with a triple rear camera unit, while the Fusion model carries two rear cameras. These models were launched alongside the Motorola Edge 50 Pro, a smartphone that was recently introduced in India. The Edge 50 Pro, powered by a Snapdragon 7 Gen 3 SoC, carrying a 50-megapixel triple rear camera unit and a 68W charger in the box is priced at Rs. 31,999 for the 8GB + 256GB option in India. Motorola Edge 50 Ultra, Motorola Edge 50 Fusion price Motorola Edge 50 Ultra price starts at EUR 999 (roughly Rs. 88,900), while the Edge 50 Fusion is priced at EUR 399 (roughly Rs. 35,900). The handsets will go on sale in select markets in Asia, Europe, Latin America and Oceania region over the coming few weeks. Motorola is yet to announce plans to launch these two handsets in India.

Doctors at Marengo Asia Hospitals advocate spreading awareness on Kyphoscoliosis

CHANDIGARH: Marengo Asia Hospitals Faridabad is proud to announce its support and commitment to raising awareness about Kyphoscoliosis, a severe spinal disorder. This spinal disorder affects millions of individuals worldwide and the team of doctors in the Department of Brain & Spine Surgery aims to promote education, advocacy, and support for those living with this condition. This team is led by Dr. Tarun Sharma, Director & HOD, and supported by Dr. Sachin Ghosh, Sr Consultant, Marengo Asia Hospitals Faridabad. Kyphoscoliosis is a complex condition characterized by abnormal curvature of the spine in two planes: Kyphosis which is front-to-back curvature and scoliosis which is side-to-side curvature. This condition can lead to various challenges, including cosmetic deformity (a hump at the upper back), limited mobility, respiratory issues, and chronic pain. When both kyphosis and scoliosis occur together, it leads to the compression of the chest cavity. Despite its impact on individuals' quality of life, kyphoscoliosis remains misunderstood and underrepresented in public domains. Dr. Tarun Sharma, Director & HOD, Department of Neurosurgery, Marengo Asia Hospitals Faridabad says, "We recognize the importance of spreading awareness about Kyphoscoliosis to improve early diagnosis, access to care, and quality of life for affected individuals. Through educational initiatives, community outreach programs, and collaborations with healthcare professionals, we seek to empower individuals with Kyphoscoliosis and their caregivers with knowledge and support.

Bajaj Allianz Life Enhances Customer Experience by simplifying Premium Payments with Digital Transactions on WhatsApp

LUDHIANA: Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance introduced premium payment options on WhatsApp through a partnership with Meta. Connecting millions of Indian consumers, WhatsApp stands out as the go-to app for communication and service. To leverage this popularity and offer ultimate convenience, Bajaj Allianz Life has upgraded its premium payment services via WhatsApp, enabling customers to seamlessly manage their policies and payments all in one place. Customers can effortlessly pay their premiums through various payment modes like Net banking, Credit card, UPI directly within the WhatsApp interface. This initiative streamlines the payment process, eliminating the need to switch between various payments apps and ensures uninterrupted and efficient premium payments directly within WhatsApp, enhancing the overall customer experience. Leveraging the widespread use of WhatsApp, Bajaj Allianz Life offers 25+ services on the app, and the new addition of premium payments aims to make the customer experience more holistic, seamless, and convenient. With WhatsApp Pay's end-to-end encryption, all transaction details are protected, ensuring that only the sender and recipient can access them, making it a highly secure payment option.

Godawan Enters in Punjab

AMRITSAR: Godawan, an artisanal single malt whiskey that defies traditional norms while keeping tradition at its core, today announced that it has entered Punjab, Chandigarh, and Madhya Pradesh – a move that strengthens its national presence across 7 markets in India. The brainchild of The Good Craft Co. from Diageo India, Godawan is crafting a distinctive single malt that challenges perceptions and defies traditional whiskey production norms. Distilled in Alwar, a region devoid of conventional whiskey making terror, Godawan leverages Rajasthan's elevated temperatures, heritage techniques, and unique botanicals to bring to life a range of Indian single malts that will cater to every palate - Light and Floral, Fruity and Spicy, Rich and Rounded, Full bodied and Smoky. It achieves this by crafting a mother liquid that is flexible enough to manifest itself across each flavour profile. Currently, the brand has launched two overall expressions – 01 Rich and Rounded and 02 Fruit and Spice – priced between INR 2800 to INR 6000. As India's whiskey craftsmanship gains global recognition, it's crucial to consistently drive innovation and uphold exceptional quality standards.

Metaverse Experience Centre With VR, AR and Immersive Technologies Launched in Noida

AMRITSAR: Metaverse Experience Centre (MEC) has been established in Noida by Indian metaverse research and advisory firm Metaverse911. On Tuesday, the firm officially announced the launch of this experience centre, inviting industry leaders as well as other Web3 enthusiasts to discover the potential of the technology. Through the centre it will visitors indulge in immersive technologies that include Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) — all of which make for key components that brings the digital ecosystem to life in the metaverse. A fully functional virtual universe, a metaverse is a hyper immersive virtual reality experience that is already making inroads in advanced video games and corporate regimes. Market analysts believe that as this technology enters more advanced stages, it could prove to be game changing for the sectors of healthcare, education, as well as advertising and media. Built on blockchain networks, the metaverse ecosystem allows players across industries to connect with global audiences and buyers – increasing the trend of creating digital representations of physical objects.

Vodafone Idea Limited Rs. 18,000 crore further public offering to open on Thursday April 18

LUDHIANA: Vodafone Idea Limited ("V" or "The Company"), shall open its Bid Offer in relation to its Further Public Offering ("FPO") of Equity Shares on Thursday, 18th April, 2024. The Total Offer Size comprises of fresh issue of Equity Shares aggregating up to ₹ 1,80,000 million (₹ 18,000 crore). (The "Fresh Issue") (The "Total Issue Size") The Price Band of the Offer has been fixed at ₹ 10 to ₹ 11 per Equity Share. Bids can be made for a minimum of 1,298 Equity Shares and in multiples of 1,298 Equity Shares thereafter. (The "Price Band") The Anchor Investor Bidding Date shall be Tuesday, 16th April, 2024. The Bid Offer will open Thursday, 18th April, 2024 for subscription and close on Monday, 22nd April, 2024. (The "Bid Offer") The Company proposes to utilize net proceeds from fresh issue of Equity Shares towards funding - (i) Purchase of equipment for the expansion of its network infrastructure amounting to Rs. 1,27,500 million (₹ 12,750 crore) which includes (a) setting up new 4G sites; (b) expanding the capacity of existing 4G sites and new 4G sites and (c) setting up new 5G sites; (ii) Payment of certain deferred payments for spectrum to the DoT and the GST thereon amounting.

Natural home remedies to treat cracked heels

From not getting to wear your favourite and comfortable pair of flip-flops to not being able to walk more than a few steps without experiencing pain, cracked heels can be quite difficult to deal with. Here are some simple and all-natural home remedies that can help you achieve baby-soft and smooth heels.

Honey and sugar scrub The antibacterial properties of honey and the exfoliating properties of sugar make for an excellent moisturising treatment to say goodbye to dry and cracked heels.

1. Mix together two to three tablespoons of honey in 4-5 tablespoons of sugar
 2. Gently massage this scrub over the heels and soles
 3. You can also make a foot bath by adding one cup of honey to a tub filled with warm water
 3. Before going to bed, soak your feet in this bath for a good 20 minutes and then scrub with a pumice stone
 4. You can follow either of these methods twice a week
- Petroleum jelly Petroleum jelly is known to work wonders over dry and rough skin. This power-ingredient can also be used to prevent cracked heels.
1. Soak your feet in a tub of warm water mixed with Epsom salt for about 20 minutes
 2. After scrubbing your feet with a pumice stone so as to get rid of the dead skin, let them dry naturally
 3. Mix one teaspoon of lemon juice



- with half-a-teaspoon of petroleum jelly and apply over your heels every night
4. Wear a pair of soft socks to lock in the moisture
- Glycerine and turmeric mix Glycerine helps moisturise dry and rough skin. Besides, its humectant properties helps get rid of cracked heels. Turmeric acts as a healing agent helping get rid of any pain or discomfort.
1. Mix equal parts of glycerine and lemon juice
 2. To this you can add a few drops of turmeric essential oil
 3. Using a cotton pad, generously apply this mix over your heels and let it dry for 20 minutes before washing with water

4. For best results, follow this twice a week
- Banana and avocado Ripe bananas are one of the best natural remedies for cracked and dry heels, thanks to their moisturising properties. On the other hand, avocados are a rich source of essential nutrients that help heal dry skin.
1. After washing and wiping your feet thoroughly, mash one ripe banana and half an avocado into a smooth paste and apply over affected areas.
 2. Let it dry for about 10 to 15 minutes so as to let your feet soak in some moisture
 3. Wash your feet with some warm water and then soak in a tub filled

- with cold water.
4. After about 5 to 10 minutes, wipe dry with a clean cloth
- Paraffin wax and coconut oil While paraffin wax helps soften the skin, coconut oil, on the other hand, tremendously helps heal cracked and providing immediate relief.
1. Mix together one tablespoon paraffin wax along with a few drops of coconut oil and heat till the wax begins to melt.
 2. Let cool and then apply over affected areas.
 3. For best results, apply daily before going to bed and wear a pair of socks.
 4. Wash off in the morning.

Crompton introduces its new range of IndiBreeze Industrial Air Coolers

CHANDIGARH: Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals Limited, renowned for its commitment to quality and pioneering innovations in appliances, has continuously redefined your living spaces with sophistication and unparalleled style. Taking this to a new level, Crompton is once again transforming cooling solutions with the launch of its IndiBreeze Industrial Cooler range. Available in 95L and 135L capacities, these industrial-grade coolers are specifically designed to tackle the demanding needs of large, open spaces like factories, warehouses, restaurants with open kitchens, and large lobbies areas. As climate change becomes a harsh reality and temperatures soar to unprecedented levels, we are likely to face extreme heat in the upcoming season. The intense

heatwaves and scorching temperatures make it important for one to experience instant cooling after a long day. Instant cooling is not only necessary to combat the heat but also to ensure comfort, convenience, and overall well-being during the summer months. Coolers, therefore, offer a valuable solution with their affordability, durability, and energy-efficient features, providing optimal cooling comfort anytime, anywhere. However, traditional metal coolers, while cost-effective, often struggle to deliver effective cooling in large, open spaces. In line with Crompton's commitment to enhancing the consumer experience, the company has introduced a new range of industrial air coolers - IndiBreeze series designed to deliver "Jaldi Cooling" this summer season.



realme unveils the Best Player with Performance and Display in the segment-realme P Series 5G



CHANDIGARH: realme, India's Most Reliable Smartphone Service Provider, is thrilled to announce the launch of its latest realme P Series 5G smartphones - realme P1 Pro 5G and realme P1 5G. The two cutting-edge devices are set to disrupt the mid-range smartphone segment with their superior performance, exceptional user experience, and exclusive availability on Flipkart for Indian consumers. Alongside the new P Series realme will also launch its realme Pad 2, Wi-Fi variant and realme T110 buds alongside the new P Series.

ant and realme T110 buds. Commenting on the launch, a realme spokesperson said, "We are thrilled to introduce the realme P Series 5G, a smartphone that is set to redefine performance standards in the smartphone industry. With the realme P Series 5G, we have introduced cutting-edge technology and advanced features that will redefine the mid-range segment. Additionally, we are also excited to launch the realme Pad 2, Wi-Fi variant and realme T110 buds alongside the new P Series.

Pierag Consulting Expands Footprint in Chandigarh, Focuses on Hiring Local Talent

CHANDIGARH: Pierag Consulting (Pierian - Assurance and Advisory), a global consulting firm specializing in assurance, accounting advisory, business risk advisory and tech risk advisory services, is looking at strengthening its presence in Chandigarh and ramping up its talent acquisition in the city. It aims to hire CAs, CPAs, ACCAs, B. Tech and M. Tech professionals with relevant working experience. Being one of the fastest growing organizations in the space of Assurance and Advisory services, this move signifies Pierag's commitment to nurturing talent in the States of Haryana, Punjab, and Himachal Pradesh. Pierag aims at leveraging the untapped potential available in cities like Chandigarh, Karnal, Mohali, Panipat, Ludhiana, Shimla, and other areas to drive innovation and growth in the consulting industry. The landscape of Consulting is evolving rapidly, with firms increasingly recognizing the value of tier-2 and tier-3 cities for their skilled workforce and talent quality. According to industry reports, Chandigarh, along with other tier-2 cities like Jaipur, Mohali, Vadodra, and others contributes significantly to India's competitive talent pool, accounting for 12-15% of the country's skilled professionals. Incorporated in 2021, Pierag Consulting was established by Abhishek Gupta and Pierian Services with its headquarters in Gurugram and other offices in Chandigarh, Jaipur, Bangalore, and Washington DC. Pierag carries forward the 20 years' legacy of Pierian Services.

ISB introduces curriculum review for a more customised PGP

CHANDIGARH: The Indian School of Business (ISB) has unveiled a comprehensive curriculum review for its Post Graduate Programme in Management (PGP), responding to the ever-changing business landscape.

It has a three-pronged focus, which includes a move towards a more customised and flexible programme structure, given the diverse needs of the students, who come from backgrounds varying from engineering to the armed forces to art or sports. With it, learnability is the second pillar, as the school will now use more activity-based methods that build the ability to constantly learn. The third key point is a built-in system of renewal in the curriculum so as

to respond to future needs proactively.

The revised curriculum, in its delivery, emphasises personalised and experiential learning opportunities, for which the newly set up Centre for Learning and Teaching Excellence will



play a pivotal role. It will drive continuous improvement in content and curriculum design.

Increased flexibility was seen as an imperative as the school consistently has a diverse cohort. Up to now, half the curriculum could be built by the stu-

dent from the list of elective courses, while the other half, the core, was fixed. Now there is much more flexibility. This directly addresses not just the variety of jobs but also the diversity within the PGP cohort. The incoming cohort, for instance, has a national-level badminton player, a civil servant, and students with a background in the armed forces. Customisation in action, thus, means an expanded list of elective choices, all tailored to students' career goals, besides flexibility in core courses as well. PGP students can now build up to 60% of the programme from an expanded list of Electives credits. The Core credits are reduced to 14; of those too, four can be chosen from a wider list.

Airtel delivers best video experience in Punjab: Open Signal

Open Signal, the independent global standards for network and subscriber insights has awarded Bharti Airtel, the best video experience on 5G network in Punjab telecom circle. OpenSignal is the global standard for analyzing mobile experience

and is a definitive guide to understanding true customer experience. Airtel has topped the chart for overall 5G video streaming experience both in live and on-demand video streaming offering customer uninterrupted experience. The company also leads the game in voice app experience, pro-

viding seamless connectivity to its users while playing multiplayer mobile games and using over-the-top (OTT) voice services on mobile voice apps. Overall, Airtel remains the outright winner of best 5G upload speed award across the country, with the winning score of 25.1Mbps

Cotton farmers need to embrace early weed detection for better yields – Godrej Agrovet

Bhatinda, Mansa, Fazilka: Impacting the livelihood of an estimated 60 Lacs farmers in India[1], Cotton is one of the most important cash crops in India. However, causing yield reduction between 40 percent to 85 percent during the last few years[2], weed infestation in cotton continues to impact the cotton farmers. "Weeds are the unwelcome guests in any cotton field," said Rajavelu NK, CEO - Crop Protection Business, Godrej Agrovet Limited. "They fiercely compete with the crop for precious

resources like sunlight, water, and nutrients. With a capability to remove about 30 percent to 50 percent of applied fertilizer and 20 percent to 40 percent of moisture[3], it is important for the farmers to imbibe the habit of focusing on early detection of weeds so as to safeguard their yields," he added. Studies have shown that the first 60 days after planting are a critical window. Hence, to mitigate the nuisance caused by the weed, herbicide applications are recommended approximately seven days before planting.

Said Rajavelu, "The yield from the emerging crops can drop due to weed competition. To identify the weed during the early growth stages, especially around germination hotspots, spotting young weeds through their distinctive leaves and shapes is necessary. And it is herein that in absence of quality labor, embracing technology, drones and precision tools like weed maps and targeted herbicide applicators become helpful tools, improving control efforts while minimizing environmental impact."

BYJU'S announces strategic reorganization in management structure

CHANDIGARH/ LUDHIANA/ Jalandhar: BYJU'S today announced a major reorganization to streamline its operations and position the company for long-term success. As part of this strategic shift, BYJU'S is consolidating its businesses into three focused divisions - (1) The Learning App, (2) Online Classes & Tuition Centres, and (3) Test-prep. This new structure will enable each vertical to be nimble, cost-efficient, and better equipped to capitalize on market opportunities while leveraging the power of the BYJU'S brand and ecosystem. Each of these units will have separate leaders who will independently run the businesses sustainably to ensure profitability. The changes follow an extensive seven-month operational review and cost optimization exercise led by outgoing BYJU'S India CEO Arjun Mohan. Mohan will now transition to an external advisory role, lending his deep EdTech expertise to the company and its founders during this transformation phase. "This reorganization marks the start of BYJU'S 3.0 - a leaner and more agile organization ready to quickly adapt to evolving market dynamics, especially in the realm of hyper-personalized education," said Byju Ravendran, Founder and Group CEO. "By focusing on our core strengths with three specialized business units, we will unlock new growth opportunities while continuing to focus on profitability." "Arjun has done an outstanding job steering BYJU'S through a challenging period," he added. "We are grateful for his leadership and look forward to his continued contributions as a strategic advisor." This new phase will also see Byju Ravendran taking a more hands-on approach in spearheading the daily operations of the company. Over the past four years, he had focused primarily on strategic aspects such as raising capital and driving global expansion. However, recognizing the need for strong leadership during this challenging hour, he will now be deeply involved in the company's day-to-day functioning, leveraging his expertise to steer BYJU'S towards its next phase of growth and innovation.

Education, Russian Federation; Mrs. Tatiana Semenova, Deputy Minister of Health, Russian Federation; Mr. Pavel Anatolyevich Shevtsov, Deputy Head of the Russian Federal Agency for Humanitarian Cooperation "Rossotrudnichestvo"; Mr. Oleg Osipov, Director of Russian House in New Delhi, Retd. Air Marshal Dr. Pawan Kapoor; and Mr. Dinesh Singla, an Education Expert representing both India and Russia; among other distinguished guests. The summit commenced with a stirring inaugural address by His Excellency Denis Alipov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Republic of India.

In his speech, he signified the importance of the Indo-Russian Education Summit in fostering educational collaboration and innovation between the two nations. Further, he made significant remarks on the mutual recognition of academic degrees in India and Russia. Noteworthy was the mention of the substantial increase in scholarship opportunities offered by the Russian Government from 200 to 500 specifically, a testament to the growing interest of Indian students in pursuing higher education in Russia.

Rus Education Spearheads Indo-Russian Education Summit, Catalyzing Educational Diplomacy

NEW DELHI: Rus Education in collaboration with "Rossotrudnichestvo", Russian Federal Agency for Humanitarian Cooperation, The Russian House in New Delhi, and Russian Embassy proudly orchestrated a historic moment in educational diplomacy as it hosted the inaugural Indo-Russian Education Summit from April 11th to 13th April. Held in New Delhi, this groundbreaking summit served as a dynamic platform for fostering robust educational collaboration and rich cultural exchange between India and Russia. Distinguished leaders, educators, and stakeholders from both nations converged to explore opportunities for mutual growth and innovation in the realm of education.

Over the course of three days, participants engaged in insightful discussions, immersive workshops, and productive networking sessions, all aimed at building and fortifying bilateral ties and advancing academic excellence. The event was graced by the presence of some esteemed presence of luminaries such as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Republic of India, HE Denis Alipov; Mr. Denis Gribov, Deputy Minister of

Haier India Introduces S800QT QLED Series

CHANDIGARH/AMRITSAR: Haier Appliances India, the No.1 global major appliances brand for 15 consecutive years, has announced the launch of its latest Smart QLED Series S800QT. Designed to elevate the home entertainment experience, the series has a 4K QLED display and comes in 4 sizes 75", 65", 55" and 43". It will be available across all channels starting at a price of INR 38,990. The all-new QLED series builds upon Haier India's widespread acclaim of providing an unparalleled entertainment experience, offering enhanced features, and mesmerizing design elements. With quantum dot technology at its core, the S800QT series delivers an exceptional spectrum of colours, incredibly lifelike visuals, and unmatched clarity with a 4K display. This revolutionary series seamlessly integrates cutting-edge technology with a visually captivating look, aiming to immerse consumers in an unparalleled cinematic journey from the comfort of their homes. Mr. NS Satish, President, Haier India, stated, "At Haier, we are dedicated to continuously redefining the home entertainment experience, and with the feature-packed S800QT QLED series, we're delivering a harmonious blend of cutting-edge technology and aesthetic finesse. Catering to consumers who seek uncompromised visual brilliance and an immersive cinematic haven in their own homes, Haier India aims to meet the evolving needs and preferences of consumers.

Fortis Escorts Amritsar Advocates Vigilance Towards Early Warning Signs of Parkinson's



AMRITSAR: According to the World Health Organization (WHO), an estimated 65 lakh individuals worldwide were living with Parkinson's disease (PD) in 2019[1]. Speaking of Parkinson's prevalence, India is poised to have the highest absolute number of PD patients globally, with nearly 40-45% experiencing the onset of motor symptoms between the ages of 22-49, as revealed by recent research from the International Parkinson and

Movement Disorder Society (IPMDS) [2]. Although the cause of Parkinson's remains elusive, years of research have pointed toward various genetic and environmental factors. Moreover, important genes like Basso (also known as the BSN gene) that increase the incidence of Parkinson's disease in young Indians have been found in a recent study that was published in the journal Movement Disorders. This is the first study of its kind carried out in India, involving 1,000 patients via a network of 10 specialized clinics for neurology and movement disorders nationwide.[3] Emphasizing the urgency of early detection through regular check-ups, Dr. Manik Mahajan, Senior Consultant, Neurology, at Fortis Escorts Amritsar, says, "It is imperative to understand what the early signs are and why ignoring them can have profound consequences.

V-Guard Unveils 'Arizo'



CHANDIGARH: V-Guard, India's leading electricals, electronics, and home appliances major, launches Arizo Wires, a path-breaking innovation in electrical wiring technology. Powered by advanced e-beam technology and boasting zero-halogen low-smoke properties, Arizo Wires heralds a new era in electrical safety and sustainability standards, offering consumers unparalleled peace of mind.

A growth rate of 9%-10%, the demand for safer and eco-friendly solutions is on the rise. Arizo Wires, with its cutting-edge e-beam processing technique, promises to meet this demand head-on, offering a remarkable 75% increase in current carrying capacity compared to conventional FR PVC wires. This advanced technology enhances both the electrical and physical strength of Arizo Wires, making them suitable for 90 Degree C continuous operation. As a result, Arizo Wires are highly heat-resistant, melt-resistant and fire retardant, and significantly reduce

the risk of short circuits and fire hazards, thereby ensuring enhanced safety for homes and businesses.

Furthermore, Arizo wires are crafted from lead-free and non-carcinogenic raw materials, complying with stringent ROHS and REACH standards, and therefore does not emit toxic gases from the insulation during fire accidents. This makes them not only eco-friendly but also a safe choice for consumers.

With 99.97% pure copper for superior conductivity, Arizo Wires adheres to national and international standards, including the prestigious Conformité Européenne certification (CE). Designed for utmost convenience and durability, Arizo Wires possess flexibility for better installation, while its moisture-defying armour ensure long lasting performance regardless of weather conditions. Additionally, Arizo Wires are fortified against termites and rodents, further enhancing their longevity and resilience.

From playing animal sounds to Indian folktales, households with young kids spend 2X more time on Alexa

CHANDIGARH: From listening to Indian folktales to playing animal sounds, Indian households with young kids who use Alexa at home are two times more engaged than other users. Parents of young kids take Alexa's help in managing their day-to-day parenting tasks and keeping their kids engaged by asking Alexa for rhymes, stories, games, GK-related questions, and more. Users enjoy the ease and convenience of giving simple voice commands to Alexa in Hindi, English, and Hinglish - making the AI a great aid for parents and companion for kids.

Alexa's ability to produce animal sounds through the Wild Planet skill recently helped save a 13-year old girl and her 15-month old niece from monkey attack in Basti, Uttar Pradesh. By asking "Alexa, kutte ki awaz nikalo", the girl was able to scare away the monkeys.

"Parents often tell us how



Alexa has become a companion in their parenting journeys. The option to access a number of useful kid-friendly experiences with simple voice commands makes Alexa a great addition for a family with young kids," says Dilip R.S., Director and Country Manager for Alexa, Amazon India. "While it is a great learning and entertainment tool for kids, Alexa can help parents manage their day-to-day tasks better. Whether it is controlling smart

home appliances with voice while juggling numerous tasks or asking for a bedtime story as part of their child's daily routine, Alexa's right there to help them."

Today, families across India are asking Alexa for information, games, quizzes, music, managing day-to-day tasks, stories, and much more. In fact, weekends are family time with Alexa - last year there was a 15% increase in requests to Alexa over the weekends in requests.

Self Expression Through Coloring

CHANDIGARH: In a world brimming with screens and digital distractions, the simplicity of a coloring book and a set of crayons can work wonders for a child's creativity and self-expression. Kids, with their boundless imagination, often find solace and joy in the act of coloring. It's not just about filling in spaces with colors; it is a form of self-expression that allows them to communicate their thoughts, feelings, and ideas in a visual manner. Coloring products serve as more than just tools for entertainment. They become vehicles through which children can explore their emotions and experiences. A simple landscape drawing and ways of coloring can reflect various emotions of a child. Through colors, they can convey their moods and perceptions of the world around them, even before they have the words to articulate them. Coloring fosters fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination in young children, as they learn to grip crayons and stay within the lines. The process of filling colors does not just aid physical development but also adds a boost to morale for children. In the realm of creativity, coloring knows no boundaries; children are free to experiment with colors, shapes, and patterns as they see fit. This freedom encourages creativity and divergent thinking, qualities that are essential for problem-solving and innovations later in life.

Swami Shivanand Sarvhitkari Sr Sec School celebrates festival of Durga Ashtami



RADHE SHYAM SHARMA MORINDA : The festival of Durga Ashtami was celebrated with great enthusiasm in Swami Shivanand Sarvhitkari Senior Secondary School Morinda on Tuesday. On this auspicious occasion, Kanjak puja was performed in the school. School Principal Laxman Singh Rawat washed the feet of the Kanjaks and offered them Halwa Puri and received blessings for the progress of the school by giving them Dakshina. Mata Rani's Prasad was distributed to all the students studying in the school. On this occasion, he said that they worshipped the forms of Mother Goddess but even today in the country women were not given the respect they deserved. The way they respected their mother and sister at home, they should respect women outside too. At this time people like Jitendra Gobar, Sanjeev Sood, Raman Bholi, Radheshyam, Jolie Sood, Master Hakam Singh were present.

CIA-1 arrests two accused along with drug consignment



MANISH KUMAR AMBALA : According to the instructions of Ambala Superintendent of Police Jashandeep Singh Randhawa, during the special campaign being run by Ambala Police to stop drug smuggling, CIA-1 on the night of 12th April 2024 in the case of drug smuggling near Maheshnagar police station area, Jagadhri Road, near Maheshnagar Sai Temple Ambala Cantonment. Ambala police team, under the leadership of Inspector Harjinder Singh, acting immediately on the basis of information, arrested the accused Rajneesh alias Ladi, resident of house number 626, Babyal police station, Maheshnagar district, Ambala, along with 400 grams of heroin, cash and vehicle number HR 85 G 5795 Marka Punch. Case number 152 dated 13 April 2024 was registered in Tax Station Maheshnagar under Section 21 NDPS Act. Police remand of the accused was obtained for 5 days as per the order of the Honorable Court. Accused Rajneesh alias Ladi told during interrogation that he had taken this heroin from accused Amarjeet Singh, resident of house number D 36, first floor Vikas Vihar, Chandra Vihar Nilodhi, Delhi. The police team of CIA-1 Ambala has also arrested the accused Amarjeet Singh from Murthal, Sonpat along with the Swift vehicle. Police remand of the accused was obtained for 1 day as per the order of the Honorable Court.

BJP will win all 10 Lok Sabha seats in the state with record margin: Manohar Lal

DRASHOK KUMAR
KARNAL, APRIL 16

Former Chief Minister and BJP's Karnal Lok Sabha candidate Manohar Lal said that the workers were working hard to bring all the 10 Lok Sabha seats of Haryana to the BJP. The workers asked people for votes in the name of Modi's guarantee and work. He was addressing the public meeting of Assandh Cluster at GS Farm located on Salwan Road on Tuesday. Former Chief Minister Manohar Lal was welcomed by District President Yogendra Rana, former MLA Bakshish Singh Virk and District Ram Sharma by presenting him a bouquet. The stage was conducted by election co-in-charge Gur Bakshish Singh Ladi. Manohar Lal said that BJP would win all the ten Lok Sabha seats of the



state with record breaking votes. He enthused the workers by giving them the mantra of victory and said that all the workers would fulfill Modi's resolve of crossing 400 by going door-to-door and counting the public welfare works. He said that Prime Minister Narendra started many schemes for the poor and needy. No one could think of having a gas cylinder in every house, they did it. He said that the opposition never understood the work. Initially the opposition used to say that

they did not have the experience of running a government. But they worked continuously and made people's lives simpler. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was moving ahead with the resolve of a developed India. Sarpanches of various villages, former sarpanches, city councilors and former councilors participated in the public meeting under the leadership of former MLA Bakshish Singh Virk. BJP District President Yogendra Rana described former Chief

Minister and Lok Sabha candidate Manohar Lal as a saint and a martyr and said how former Chief Minister Manohar Lal, during his rule of more than nine years, implemented new schemes in the public interest. Gharaunda MLA Harvinder Kalyan said that due to the public welfare works done by the Central and State Government, the people have made up their mind to hand over power to BJP for the third time. Former MLA Bakshish Singh Virk said that Manohar Lal's victory from Karnal Lok Sabha will be a great victory for the country. BJP state spokesperson Dr. Virendra Chauhan, Haryana Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee President Bhupend Singh Asandh, Gulab Moanak, Sumit Narwal, Sajjan Attri and Brijmohan Takkur also addressed the workers.

CM Nayab Saini receives warm welcome in Raifarm village Kachchwa

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA
KARNAL, APRIL 16

State Chief Minister Nayab Saini said that every citizen of India today felt safe in the whole world because Narendra Modi's government has guaranteed security to every countryman. Today, Indians got respect in every corner of the country and the world it was because of Narendra Modi. The Chief Minister was addressing a public meeting in Raifarm Kachhwa village of Karnal Assembly late in the evening. Earlier, on reaching the village, Chief Minister was given a warm welcome. Chief Minister said in his address that under the leadership of former Chief Minister Manohar Lal unprecedented development



has taken place in the state in the last nine and a half years. This development will continue further. For this, they all have to ensure BJP victory in Lok Sabha and Assembly. On this occasion, hundreds of people including

District President Yogendra Rana, Jagmohan Anand, Sanjay Bathla, Sarpanch representative Deepak Kumar, former Sarpanch Bittu, Kalampura former Sarpanch Bansilal were present.

Festival of Durga Ashtami celebrated with pomp in Sadhaura



PREETI RANI SADHAURA: The festival of Durgashtami was celebrated with great pomp on Tuesday. On the occasion of Durga Ashtami festival, Kanjak Puja was performed with great devotion and enthusiasm in the area. During this time, Kanjak was served food and the women broke their fast. Women told that before Durga Ashtami which fell during Chaitra Navratri, women kept fast for Navratri and on the day of Durga Ashtami, they broke their fast with Kanjak puja. Fairs are also organized at many places on this day. Amrita Rani, Nancy Sarvjeet Kaur, Poonam Devi, Bindu Rani, told that by worshipping and fasting on Durga Ashtami during Chaitra Navratri, all the wishes of Goddess Durga were fulfilled. On this day, Mother Durga is pleased by washing the feet of small girls and worshipping them and feeding them and the women observing fast are especially blessed by Mother Durga.

Having advanced knowledge of computers gives more employment opportunities: Dr. Karuna

RAHUL KOHLI
JAGADHRI, APRIL 16

On the second day of the weekly workshop being run by the Admission Committee and Library and ICT Cell at Maharaja Agrasen College, Jagadhri, discussed how to create a small website and how to keep it live on the website. The program was started by the college principal, Dr. Karuna. Dr. Karuna said that in today's time, it was very important for the students to have basic knowledge of computers as well as its advanced knowledge. Dr. Karuna said that getting practical information about creating a website and being live on the website was the demand of today's time. Every student



must have this knowledge. The main speaker of the workshop, Mr. Lakshpat Singh told the students should know how to create a small website and gave practical information about this. He not only explained the students through theory but also gave them practical information about how a small website can be created. The students not only got the information but also did its practical work and

Lakshpat showed the students how to stay live on the website. Give practical information about this also. Program Officer Dr. Vijay Chawla told the students. The admission committee of the college is ready to provide various types of computer information to its students and the students of the entire district. In this connection, a weekly workshop of web designing was organized.

Shri Ram Katha Mahotsav organized at Shri Sanatan Dharam Mandir



DARSHAN SHARMA NILOKHEDI: Story of the sixth day of Shri Ram Katha Mahotsav organized at Shri Sanatan Dharam Mandir Neelnagar by Beas Harihar Mudgal Ji Maharaj. Lord Ram did not perform any miracle in his life, but by appearing in human form, he helped us at every step of his life. Ideals that have been established are useful for everyone from time immemorial till today. He said that patience, bravery and effort that Ram has shown even in adverse circumstances, especially in the present times of crisis, is an example for mankind. He presented Bharat's character in a very impressive manner. He said that Bharat's brotherly love is praiseworthy and at the same time, Bharat is remorseful and considers himself guilty for a crime he has not committed. He said that where Duryodhana is an attitude of greed and wherever there is an attitude of sacrifice like Bharat, there is Ramayana and there is Ayodhya.

Govt College, Chhachhrauli organizes its first annual prize distribution ceremony



PREETI RANI SADHAURA: The first annual prize distribution ceremony of the college was organized at Government College, Chhachhrauli. College students participated enthusiastically in the function. Dr. R.C. Mishra, Director General of Police and Managing Director, Haryana Police Housing Corporation, Panchkula, Haryana participated in the program as the chief guest and graced the program. The chief guest was welcomed by the Principal by giving a flower bunch and NCC cadets took out a march past. The program started with lighting of the lamp by the chief guest and worshipping Maa Saraswati. The Principal presented the annual progress report of the college and informed about the achievements of the college in academic, cultural, sports and other fields. He said that the students of the college were making great achievements in various fields and setting new records every day. He inspired the students to move forward on the basis of strict dedication, self-confidence and self-determination.

Naib Tehsildar Gaurav Uppal achieves 174th rank in UPSC exam

GURDARSHAN SINGH PRINCE. BEAS: After the declaration of UPSC results across the country, there is an atmosphere of happiness among the candidates who have secured various ranks. In these UPSC results, Gaurav Uppal, who is serving as Naib Tehsildar in Baba Bakala Sahib, has passed this examination by securing 174th rank. During the conversation, Mr. Gaurav Uppal told that he had taken this examination twice before, after which he has now got success in the third attempt. He said that due to the immense grace of God and the support of his parents and entire family, he was in this position today and along given him full support from time to time. He told that this examination was started in 2020 during the Covid period. Gaurav said that he also wanted to go to Delhi for coaching, but due to the lockdown, he did all the preparation online sitting at home. While giving a message to the youth, he said that they should pay special attention to sports and studies and hard work will definitely bear fruit one day. For this, he wants the youth to bring glory to themselves and their families by getting involved in sports and studies.



with this, his friends have also

Global Research Group of Institutions holds mega job fair



NIRMAL SAINI RADAUR: Global Research Group of Institutions based in Nacharoun organized a mega job fair. The objective of this program was to drive placement of final year students of various colleges from various disciplines including B.Pharmacy, B.Tech, BBA and BCA. This mega job fair was organized by Global Research Group of Institutions and leading industry players such as Ziquita Healthcare Ltd., Alembic Pharma Ltd., Biofield Pharma Pvt. Ltd., Sanify Healthcare Pvt. Ltd., MITS Pharma, Y Hills, Corgeo, Axioms Consulting and Hoping Minds. The event was aimed at nurturing talent and promoting growth in the pharmaceutical and technology sector, making it a platform for aspiring graduates and reputed companies to become an important moment for the students. Top level employers actively seek skilled and talented students to join their teams and select students for various roles in their organizations. The event provided an excellent opportunity for attendees to receive high-paying job offers, with the maximum salary package available at the job fair being an attractive Rs 7.25 lakh per annum.

Mata Shakumbhari Devi Temple organizes Havan and Bhandara on occasion of Ashtami



NARESH GARG LADWA: On Tuesday, a Havan Yagya and Bhandara was organized by the Mata Shakumbhari Devi Temple Committee on the occasion of Ashtami festival in the Mata Shakumbhari Devi Temple complex near Ladwa. In which a large number of devotees participated and took the Prasad. At the same time, offerings were made in the Havan by the committee members. Giving information, Harbilas Garg, Conservator of the Temple Committee, said that on Tuesday, a Havan Yagya was organized on Mata Shakumbhari Devi in the temple premises. A huge Bhandara was also organised, in which Prasad of Kadhi Rice, Aloo Puri and Halwa was distributed. Havan Yagya was performed by the priest of the same temple, Naresh Nautiyal. Zilla Parishad Ward No. 7 and JJP Ladwa Halka head Jasbir Panjeta, who reached the spot also went to Mata Shakumbhari Devi temple and bowed his head and prayed to Goddess Bhagwati for the well-being of Ladwa. He said that by worshipping Goddess Bhagwati on the day of Ashtami, all sins vanished and they all should worship Goddess Bhagwati on the day of Ashtami.

Eligible adults deprived of voting can get prepared their votes by April 23



KULBHUSHAN SHARMA GUHLA CHEEKA: Elections were a national festival in which every vote was important. Voting was an important effort in building a strong democracy. This view was expressed by Assistant Returning Officer, 15 Guhla Assembly Constituency and Sub Divisional Officer (NA) Guhla Krishna Kumar HCS while emphasizing on the SVEEP programme. Krishna Kumar said that while on one hand awareness promotes 100 per cent voting. On the other hand elections are conducted in a free, fair and peaceful manner. He said that elderly and disabled voters, who were unable to vote in person at polling stations, would be provided the facility to vote through ballot paper at their residence. SDM Krishna Kumar stressed upon the general public to maintain public peace and harmony and said that only through awareness they can avoid rumors and misconceptions. He asked all the supervisors and BLO employees to perform their duties sincerely and avoid negligence or laxity in their work. SDM said that booth-awareness groups of five impartial youth each have been formed at all 199 polling booths which were making people aware.

Maa Rajlakshmi Manda rides bike from TN to Yamunanagar for Modi's victory



RAJNI SONI YAMUNANAGAR: BJP District President Rajesh Sapra, while giving information, said that the country's Prime Minister Narendra Modi should become the Prime Minister of our country for the third consecutive time and for this Rajlakshmi Manda, who is famous as Bullet Rani travelled about 21,000 kilometres from Tamil Nadu to Delhi on a motorcycle to promote it in the entire country. The determined maa Rajlakshmi Manda, who is famous as Bullet Rani, reached district Yamuna Nagar today on a bike trip. She was given a grand welcome, after which she went to Shaheed Bhagat Singh Chowk (Fountain Chowk). BJP Yuva Morcha District President Nischal Choudhary, District General Secretary Krishna Singla, Rahul Garhi, Amit Chauhan etc. along with hundreds of BJP workers while walking with them on motorcycle till Pyara Chowk, Madhu Chowk, Agrasen Chowk, Matka Chowk, Jagadhri Bus Stand and Raksha Vihar Block. supported him in the bike journey and after the end of the journey, Bullet Rani left for Ambala for further journeys. BJP District President Rajesh Sapra said that Amrit Kaal is going on in the country and people from every corner of the country are praying for Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Haryana State Child Rights Protection Commission Chairperson conducts surprise inspection at Sardannad Ashram



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA KARNAL: Haryana State Child Rights Protection Commission Chairperson Praveen Joshi conducted a surprise inspection at Sardannad Ashram in Karnal on Monday and during the inspection, the files were checked and no flaws were found in the files and the files were carefully and properly prepared and maintained. After talking directly to the boys and girls living in the ashram, he took stock of the situation and he observed children's rest room, kitchen room, quality of food served to children were fine. Two of the girls living in the ashram got government jobs. Chairperson Mrs. Praveen Joshi encouraged them by feeding them sweets. She said that protecting child rights was the priority of the Commission and for this a special commission has been constituted which was working with full sensitivity in this direction. They should together protect child rights.

Baba Bansilal Wala runs Shrimad Bhagwat Katha for 7th day



NARESH GARG LADWA: On the seventh day of Shrimad Devi Bhagwat Katha being run at Baba Bansilal Wala Old Age Home in Ladwa, story teller Acharya Rajneesh narrated the story of various incarnations of Durga Ji along with Shakumbhari incarnation of Maa. Subhash Jindal, Vinay Goyal, Deepak Pasricha performed the Aarti of the mother as chief guests in the story. In the story, Acharya Rajneesh said that God was attracted only by emotions. Worship done without any emotion cannot please God. He said that if there was a feeling in the hearts then the boat can cross the Bhava whereas knowledge crossed the ocean of the world. Acharya said that amid the picturesque presentation of the verses mentioned in this Purana containing the sacred stories of Paramba Shri Jagdamba Ji, he left the devotees emotional by singing his musical bhajan - Now I have handed over the burden of this life in your hands. In the context of the story, Acharya Rajneesh narrated various incarnations of Goddess Durga ji including Maa Shakambhari incarnation.

