

Correct discourse, maintain decorum: Poll Body asks BJP, Congress

INDI alliance depressed after 5th phase of polling: PM

AGENCY
BASTI (UP), MAY 22

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Wednesday that the fifth phase of Lok Sabha election polls in the country has ensued for the Modi government in the country for the third time, and as a result, the INDI alliance is deep into depression.

Addressing an election rally in Basti, the PM said, "Five phases of polling have been completed in the country, and these five phases have confirmed the Modi government for a third term in the country. For this, you don't need to look around; just see the statements of the leaders of the INDI alliance. Everyone is telling different statistics," he said.

He said, "If you seek their old records and results, you will get confidence that the entire INDI alliance is so deep into depression that they were not



aware of their statements two days ago and today. This is their situation. All of you are intelligent people who will not waste their time and energy. Now you tell me that one vote cast in favor of the SP or Congress is of any worth. It is worthless," he said.

Modi said that every vote should be cast for whoever the people want to form the government, and there is a guarantee of forming the government. "Cast your

vote for Viksit Bharat and Atma Nibhar Bahart," he said.

He said that January 22 is a memorable day that every child remembers. "When I say January 22, the country automatically responds, 'Jai Shri Ram'. 'On that historical day in Ayodhya, I said, 'Toward nation from Ram, from heritage to development, and from spirituality towards development.'"

And today, the country is moving forward with this mantra," he said. The PM said that India has become the fifth-largest economy in the world. "Today, India's stature and respect have increased," he said. Referring to Pakistan, he said that the country that patronized terrorism and used to threaten India is nowhere. "While Pakistan has lowered its guards, its sympathizers, the people of the SP and Congress, are trying to threaten India.

Rahul Gandhi targets PM Modi over Agniveer scheme

AGENCY
MAHENDRAGARH, MAY 22

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi targeted Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the Agniveer scheme, reiterating that the party would scrap the scheme after it forms the government at the Centre after the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

Addressing a public meeting in Haryana's Mahendragarh, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said, "...Prime Minister Narendra Modi has made the Jawans of India like labourers... The Army doesn't want the Agniveer scheme, it's a scheme made by the Prime Minister's Office. Once Congress comes to power (forms government at the Centre) we will throw this scheme in the dustbin..."



"The farmers of Haryana work in the fields of the country; the Modi government snatched away your rights and abolished the Land Tribunal Bill to help the billionaires; then three

(farm) laws came, but the government had to step back," Rahul Gandhi added. The Congress leader further said, "I undertook a yatra across the country, and the farmers told me their views, but all this was not visible in the media, only Modi ji's face and marriage were visible."

Rahul Gandhi accused PM Modi of waiving the loans of 22 rich people. "Loans were waived off during the United Progressive Alliance, and Modi ji has waived off the loans of 22 rich people. This is an insult to the farmers." The Lok Sabha elections for the 10 parliamentary constituencies of Haryana are going to be held in a single phase on May 25. In the 2019 Lok Sabha elections in the state, the BJP swept, capturing all 10 seats.

AGENCY
NEW DELHI, MAY 22

Five phases of the Lok Sabha election over, the Election Commission today came down heavily on the ruling BJP and the main Opposition Congress over poll speeches by its star campaigners. This comes after both the parties had filed complaints against each other, flagging speeches by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Congress MP Rahul Gandhi.

In separate directions issued to BJP president JP Nadda and Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge, the poll body said the country's socio-cultural milieu cannot become a casualty to elections.

"Elections are a process when political parties not only contest to win, but also avails the opportunity to present themselves in their ideal best for the voting community to experience, emulate and build hopes on. The second part constitutes the more precious heritage of Indian elections and our electoral democracy and this should not be allowed to be weakened by anyone, including your party," the commission said.

"Elections are periodic exercises, they come and go, but political parties like yours endure; even more enduring preserve is India's socio-cultural milieu; Political parties are in the task of nurturing leaders for the country for present and future. They cannot afford to be lax in any manner in enforcing discipline and conduct among the cadre



in the high stake electoral space; especially with reference to senior members," the poll body told both parties.

Earlier, both parties had approached the Election Commission and complained against each other's leaders. The poll body had issued notices and sought their responses on the allegations. In today's directions, it has rejected their defences.

In its letter to Mr Nadda, the poll body has said it expects BJP, "as the ruling party at the Centre to fully align the campaign methods to the practical aspects of the composite and sensitive fabric of India".

The commission has directed the BJP to instruct all star campaigners to refrain from making any statement prohibited under the Model Code of Conduct.

The rules, it stressed, provide that "No Party or candidate shall include in any activity which may aggravate existing difference or create mutual hatred or cause tension between different castes and communities, religious or linguistic. The poll body directed the BJP chief to direct all star campaigners "to not make speeches and statements, which may divide the society". It also directed the star campaigners to "refrain from any campaigning methods/ utterances along religious communal lines". The poll body also called for decorum in speeches by the party's star campaigners. The Election Commission's letter to Mr Kharge said that it expects the Congress to "fully align the campaign methods to the practical aspects of the composite and sensitive fabric of India".

HC cancels Bengal's Backward Classes Certificates granted since 2011

AGENCY
KOLKATA, MAY 22

The Calcutta High Court has cancelled all certificates to Other Backward Classes issued in Bengal since 2011 under the Trinamool Congress administration, calling them "illegal". This, however, would not affect the jobs held currently by the people, the court said. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has said she "will not accept" the order, which takes away the rights granted to the Tapashili community. The court struck down reservation for several communities as Other Backward Classes under a new law of the state government passed in 2012. Justices Tapabrata Chakraborty and Rajasekhar Mantha, however, said the executive orders of the state government classifying 66 classes of OBC before 2010 were not interfered with, since these were not challenged in the petitions. "The OBC reservation quota introduced by the West Bengal government will continue. We had drafted the Bill after conducting a house-to-house survey, and it was passed by the cabinet and the assembly," Ms Banerjee was quoted as saying by news agency Press Trust of India. "The BJP has conspired to stall it by using central agencies. How can the party show such audacity?" she added. Senior party leader and Ms Banerjee's nephew Abhishek Banerjee alleged the court's judgment is part of the BJP's efforts to cancel reservation for the Tapashili community.



ECI Transfers Jalandhar and Ludhiana Police Commissioners to Non-Election Duties

CHANDIGARH: The Election Commission of India (ECI) has transferred two Punjab Police officers from their current posts to non-election duties. Giving Information in this regard, a spokesperson of the office of Chief Electoral Officer stated that Mr. Swapan Sharma, IPS (RR: 2009), currently serving as the Police Commissioner of Jalandhar, and Mr. Kuldeep Chahal, IPS (RR: 2009), currently serving as the Police Commissioner of Ludhiana, have been transferred from their present posts. In a letter to the Chief Secretary of Punjab, the ECI has directed that the two officers be assigned to non-election-related duties. Additionally, the Commission has asked the Chief Secretary to provide a panel of three eligible officers for each of the positions to be filled in Jalandhar and Ludhiana.

45,576 EVMs to be used for Lok Sabha elections in State

BUREAU CHANDIGARH, MAY 22

Haryana Chief Electoral Officer, Sh. Anurag Agarwal said that a total of 45,576 EVMs (ballot units) will be used in the state for the Lok Sabha general elections and the by-election of Karnal Assembly constituency. Along with this, 24,039 control units and 26,040 VVPAT machines will be used. In VVPAT, the voter can see the vote given by him.

He informed that a total of 20,031 polling stations have been set up in the state. These include 19,812 permanent and 219 auxiliary polling stations. 5,470 polling stations have been set up in urban areas and 14,342 polling stations have been set up in rural areas. He informed that 176 model polling stations have been established. There are 99 polling stations

which will be operated entirely by women staff. Apart from this, 96 polling stations manned by youth employees, and 71 polling stations manned by Person with Disability (PwD) employees. All basic facilities and other necessary arrangements have been made in view of the heat wave in all the polling stations. Also, 91 counting centers have been set up at a total of 44 locations in the state.

Sh. Agarwal said that there are a total of 2,00,76,768 registered voters in the state, which includes 1,06,52,345 men, 94,23,956 women and 467 transgender voters. Apart from this, there are 762 overseas voters. He said that a total of 2,63,887 voters in the state



are above 85 years of age. Apart from this, there are 1,50,277 PwD voters and 1,11,143 service voters. The Chief Electoral Officer said that for the convenience of voters above 85 years of age and PwD voters in the state, a provision has been made to cast their vote from home. For this, the department employees get the

consent of the voter by filling 12D form. 9024 Form 12D have been approved by the returning officers. Out of these, 8324 i.e. about 92 percent voters cast their vote and department employees collected their postal ballots.

Sh. Anurag Agarwal said that this time a unique initiative has been taken to increase the voting percentage, under which invitation letters are being sent to the voters like a marriage. About 50 lakh invitation cards have been printed. BLOs are giving this invitation letter to every family along with the voter slip. Voting will take place on May 25 from 7 am to 6 pm, he said.

NIFA in collaboration with District Bar Association organise voting awareness program

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA KARNAL, MAY 22

National Integrated Forum of Artists and Activists (NIFA) organized a voting awareness campaign in the Court Complex in collaboration with the District Bar Association on Wednesday. In the program NIFA members reached the court complex holding placards with slogans encouraging 100 per cent voting. District Bar Association President Sanjeev Choudhary and Secretary Vikas Sandhu along with their colleagues joined in their efforts and hundreds of people one after the other reached the court complex. Lawyers and clients coming to the court participated in this campaign also.

District Bar Association President Sanjeev Choudhary said that NIFA's voter awareness campaign was an effort to strengthen the democracy of the nation. Former chief Kanwarjit Singh Bhatia, Nirmal Singh Stouandy, senior advocate Sukhbir Tyagi, Narendra Sukhan, Kailash Chauhan, Suresh Khanna, Suresh Choudhary, Rajesh Mani, Mange Ram Sangwan, Harish Arya, Ram Chandra Taya, Narendra Cheema, Lajpat Rai Chuchada, Jitendra Rana, Ro-



shan Lal Turan and a large number of lawyers and clients including young lawyers Robbin Kaimla, Rubal Choudhary, Krishna Choudhary, Sudarshan Choudhary, Anil Kumar, Siddharth Choudhary also clicked their photographs on the selfie stand of the voter awareness campaign and all of them were given a certificate by NIFA. They were honored with a "I am proud to be a voter" badge. Slogans written along with the selfie stand, "I am democracy guard" and "I will vote because every vote is important", "Your vote is your voice" inspired everyone to vote. So the youth going to vote for the first time resolved to vote with the slogan, "My country, my family, my first vote for my country".

Senior advocate and national convener of NIFA, Advocate Naresh Barana said that they only considered voting as a right but it was also a duty towards the country which was a moral responsibility for all of them to fulfill. Founder President of NIFA, Preetpal Singh Pannu said that during its 23 years of tenure, the organization has always conducted awareness campaigns regarding voting in elections ranging from Lok Sabha, Assembly to Municipal Corporation. Mr Pannu said that if they cannot fulfill the responsibility of electing good representatives and sending them to the country's Parliament once in five years, then they have no right to ask for anything for development in five years.

Students give message of corruption free India through drawings

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA KARNAL, MAY 22

Anti Corruption Foundation of India organized a drawing competition on the title Corruption Free India at Sheikhpura Khalsa Senior Secondary School in which more than fifty students participated.

The programme was presided over by National Supremo Narendra Arora and National Director Ajit Rahi. On this occasion, consolation prizes were given to all the participants.

After the decision of the jury, the names of the winning participants were announced by International President Mahila Cell Dr. Nisha Gupta. In the competition, first prize of 1100 rupees was won by Kashish, second prize of 500 rupees by Navya and third prize of 250 rupees was won by Jyoti. The participants made a message drawing on the title Corruption Free India.



On this occasion, Narendra Arora said that under the Corruption Free India campaign, the Foundation makes people aware by organizing competitions like drawing, slogan, speech etc. in educational institutions.

He said that by administering the oath of integrity to the students, they are inspired to make their family members take the oath. On this occasion, Dr. Nisha Gupta said that daughters have received all three

awards. This conveys the message of Corruption Free India as well as the message of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao. On this occasion, mainly National Director Mahesh Hasija, National Director Satish Malhotra, State Director Haryana Satish Jangra, District Director, Karnal Rajendra Grewal, Gaurav Srivastava, Preeti, Arpan Lakhnupal, School Principal Harmeet Kaur, Rana Simran Singh, Arpan Lakhnupal etc. were present.

Campaigning for Lok Sabha and Karnal Assembly by-elections will end after 6 pm today

KARNAL (DR ASHOK KUMAR): Deputy Commissioner and District Election Officer Uttam Singh said that in view of the Lok Sabha elections and Karnal Assembly by-elections, orders have been issued to maintain law and order in the area and conduct the elections in a peaceful manner. An important aspect was that campaigning for the Lok Sabha and Assembly by-elections would be stopped 48 hours before the elections.

Talking here on Wednesday, Deputy Commissioner Uttam Singh said that campaigning would be allowed only till 6 pm on May 23. After this time period, campaigning would be stopped. Campaigning would be stopped 48 hours before the polling and no person would be allowed to campaign. Not only this, on the day of polling, only two vehicles will be allowed to the candidate and agent and no party will bring voters to the booth site in vehicles. All voters will reach the booths to vote on their own. He said that there would also be a ban on holding public meetings, illegal gathering and use of loudspeakers after 6 pm on May 23. With the aim of conducting elections in a peaceful and transparent manner in this district, there would be strong security arrangements to maintain peace on the day of polling on May 25. Not only this, there will be special security arrangements at the counting centers on the day of counting on June 4. Apart from this, as per the orders of the Election Commission, rules have been implemented regarding law and order.



Voter awareness rally organized in Government Primary School, Nabipur



DR. ASHOK KUMAR KARNAL, MAY 22

Students of Government Primary School, Nabipur organized a rally and awareness program in the village under the Sveep Voting Awareness Program under the guidelines of the District Education Department. The school head Dalip Singh explained to the villagers in detail about the importance of voting

and that voting was very important for a healthy democracy.

Making all the villagers present aware, he said that on May 25, everyone should celebrate the festival of democracy with enthusiasm.

After the awareness program in the school, an awareness rally was taken out with the villagers for voting.

By holding street meetings at public places in the

village, villagers were made aware about voting with hand written slogans and slogans pertaining to voting awareness.

Invitation letters sent by the election office to all the villagers were also given door-to-door. On this occasion, school head Dalip Singh, teacher Meenakshi Dhankhar, Surekha, Bhupendra Singh, SMC head Indu Sunita, Mamta and Birmati were present.

Modi government will be formed on development issue: Dr. Ganesh Dutt

NARESGH GARG LADWA: Former National Executive Member of BJP Intellectual Cell and State Member of Good Governance Department, Dr. Ganesh Dutt said that in Lok Sabha elections, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 10 years of development work and increasing confidence in PM among the public will be reflected.

Modi government will be formed in the country for the third time with an overwhelming majority. The frustration and disappointment in the arrogant alliance with the slogan of 400 pas has become evident. Therefore, out of greed for power, opposition parties are trying to humiliate country by making vulgar statements. Dr. Dutt said that the lotus will bloom with huge votes in all the 10 Lok Sabha constituencies in the state and Karnal by-election and more than Prime Minister Narendra Modi's target of 400 seats will come to BJP and NDA from all over the country. He said that the people of country have come to know that words of PM Modi are equal to words. In the last 10 years, he worked to promote harmony in the country. Strengthened every section of the society socially and economically. There is confidence among the public that in the third term, PM Modi's dream of making a developed India in 2047 will be realized and every section of the society will become stronger.



23 students of Globe Heritage win International Olympiad medals



NARESH GARG LADWA, MAY 22

23 students of Globe Heritage International School won International Olympiad medals. Hindi subject teacher, Chanchal Kinger said that in International Hindi Olympiad organized by Hindi Vikas Manch and approved by Kendriya School Education Board, Delhi and Haryana School Education Board, Bhiwani, students of Globe Heritage International School won 14 gold, 4 silver. And brought glory to the school by winning 23 medals including 5 bronze medals. Hindi Vikas Manch honored medal winning students by giving them medals and certificates. Among the stu-

dents who won gold medals, 8 students secured a place among the best students at the international level by scoring full 100 marks. Principal of the school, Reetu Singla, while congratulating the children on this achievement, said that Hindi is our mother tongue and by acquiring knowledge of our mother tongue and winning a medal at the international level in the same field, not only personal development of child but also the development of the nation. They also have full support from the school which develops the feeling of nationalism in them which will prove to be a boon for them in the future, for which not only child but also the school including the parents.

Security personnel deployment and webcasting will be provide at every booth: DC

AMBALA (MANISH KUMAR): District Election Officer and DC Dr. Shaleen said that tight security arrangements have been made for the Ambala Lok Sabha elections. Security personnel will be deployed at 920 polling booths at all 520 places in the district. Complete mapping of security arrangements has been done in this regard. He also held a review meeting in this regard.

After the meeting, DC Dr. Shaleen told that 90 polling booths were marked critical, police officers, sector officers and zone officers have been deployed on these booths. There will be webcasting of every polling booth. Polling booth activity can be seen in the control room. Everyone will play their important role in conducting the elections peacefully. On May 24, all the polling parties will reach the polling booth with their EVMs and other items and the elections for Lok Sabha will be concluded on May 25.

SP Jashandeep Singh Randhawa said that the police have prepared its plan for the voting day. With the imposition of the code of conduct, the police have set up eight inter-state, five inter-district and 20 intra-district blockades. During this period, 5.8 kg of drugs were seized. Six companies have arrived for the polling day while Home Guards of Himachal Pradesh will also reach Ambala for security arrangements. Patrolling parties will continue their work on the election day.

During this, Assistant Superintendent of Police Srishti Gupta, DSP Ramesh Kumar, DSP Randhir Singh, DSP Rajat Gulia, DSP Suresh Kumar were present.



Independent candidate Rajendra Arya joins BJP



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA KARNAL: The support base of Bharatiya Janata Party is increasing day by day. On Wednesday, in the presence of the Chief Minister of the state and BJP candidate in Karnal Assembly by-election, Nayab Singh Saini, Karnal's farmer leader and member of the United Kisan Morcha and Rajendra Arya Dadupur, who is contesting the independent election from Karnal, joined the BJP and gave his support to the BJP. Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini welcomed Rajendra Arya Dadupur on joining BJP. The Chief Minister said that the Bharatiya Janata Party has always thought about the farmers. He said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched many schemes for the welfare of farmers, which are benefiting the farmers of the entire country today. On this occasion, BJP District President Yogendra Rana, senior BJP leaders Jagmohan Anand and Sanjay Bathla were also present.

All Haryana Roadways Workers Union holds meeting regarding pending issues

RAHUL KOHLI JAGADHRI, MAY 22

A meeting was held under the chairmanship of Mr. Rajinder Kamboj, President of All Haryana Roadways Workers Union on Wednesday. In the meeting issues of the employees were discussed. The employees those were present on the meeting all submitted their issues writing and President Rajendra Kamboj listened to the work of the employees in detail.

It was also state that one year's TA and payments of overtime of the employees were still pending. Money for clothes and shoes has not been received yet. Cases of many employees were pend-



ing. On the occasion, Pradhan met the General Manager after the elections and assured to get all the work done because the officers and employ-

ees were busy in elections duty. Hence, the pendency of issues was not resolved. He gave a message to all the employees that on May 25 they should use their right to vote

and helped the country in electing the right government. Keeping in mind the future of the children, chose the right government. He said that everyone should actively participate in the elections.

On this occasion, State Vice President Dharmendra Kadian, State Treasurer Raghuveer Punjabi, Depot Secretary Pradeep Sharma, Depot Treasurer Kamal Jogi Harsh Kumar Tejendra Gurjar, Dharam-

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA KARNAL, MAY 22

Mukesh Chaudhary Assembly President Youth Congress told that on May 23, Priyanka Gandhi will address a mega rally at Panipat New Grain Market for Congress candidate Divyanshu Buddhi Raja on behalf of India Alliance from Karnal Lok Sabha constituency. Congress candidate Divyanshu will appeal to vote in favor of Buddhi Raja. Time of Maharally is 10 am. Mukesh Chaudhary said that this election is against the wrong policies of BJP. People of Karnal themselves are contesting the elections. BJP people neither have any issue nor have they got any development work done, that is why they are talking non-



sense. Everyone is a devotee of Lord Ram who is bringing the name of Ram in the midst

of elections. Is Lord Ram their trademark? People are not going to buy into his words. Day

by day BJP candidates are not being allowed to enter the villages and in the villages where BJP candidates are not allowed to enter, Congress candidate Divyanshu Buddhi Raja is being weighed with laddus. Mukesh Chaudhary said that inflation will be controlled if Congress government is formed in the country. A woman from a poor family will be given Rs 1 lakh annually. Apart from this, to end unemployment in the country, more than 30 lakh unemployed people will be given jobs every year and the loans of poor people and farmers will also be waived off. Mukesh Chaudhary said that the 5 justice and 25 guarantees that Rahul-Kharge have promised from the Congress Party are enough to change the life of every countryman.

KISHORI LAL BAINS
UNA: IIIT Una has been granted a patent for an innovative system called UNIHISID in collaboration with Sri SivasubramaniyaNadar College of Engineering Chennai, Tamil Nadu. This new technology automates the unification of different immunization systems and improves data quality. UNIHISID is a significant breakthrough for the medical field. By providing high-quality data that will help in understanding medical history better and

will support informed policy-making and decision-making in the medical field.
 Director IIIT Una, Prof. Manish Gaur is happy to share this news and said, "This advancement is a major step forward in the effort to improve healthcare and ensure that everyone receives accurate and effective medical care. For an Institute as young as IIIT Una it's a significant milestone towards our journey to achieving excellence through world class research relevant to industrial practices".

NIT student dies of fall

HAMIRPUR: A final year student of National Institute of Technology (NIT), Hamirpur, died after apparently falling from the roof of a rented house in Panyala village of the Himachal Pradesh district early Wednesday. Kamal Kumar was getting ready to sleep but lost control and fell down a flight of stairs, his friends who were with him at the time told the authorities. They also took Kumar to the Medical College Hospital where he was declared dead. The deceased belonged to Sitar village of Rajasthan and was a student of MSc Mathematics and Computer Science. The relatives of the deceased have been informed. Post mortem was being conducted, the police said. A case was registered and investigation was underway. Hamirpur SP Padam Chand said in initial investigation it seems to be a case of fall, but all angles were being investigated thoroughly.

Yellow alert in Kangra till May 24

DHARAMSHALA: A yellow alert has been issued regarding heat wave in Kangra district till May 24, officials said today. After the regional Met office has forecast a possibility of hot winds and heat wave for next few days, the State Disaster Management, Shimla has requested citizens to be alert and take precautions to avoid heat wave, deputy commissioner Hemraj Bairwa told UNI. To beat heat, he suggested that several precautionary measures such as people should have a bath with cold water, keep the houses cool with use of curtains, shutters etc, keep windows open at night, stay hydrated, not to go out in harsh sun, avoid working outside in harsh sun, not to consume alcohol, tea, coffee, highly sweetened beverages, cold drinks, aerated substances and avoid taking stale food or cooking food in extreme heat, he added.

12000 un-casted postal ballots exchanged at State level clearing center established for easy exchange of postal ballot papers



DINESH AGARWAL SHIMLA: Chief Electoral Officer Maneesh Garg today visited the State Level Clearing Center established at ITI Chaura Maidan Shimla and gave necessary directions pertaining to exchange of un-casted Postal Ballot papers to further deliver the same to the respective ROs and AROs who will facilitate the voters deployed on the election duty. He said that in this center, the officers/employees appointed by the Election Department from each assembly segment of the state exchanged about 12 thousand un-casted ballot papers. The data pertaining to these ballot papers have also been uploaded on a specially developed portal by the office of CEO.

State Election Department decides 88 percent complaints: CEO

DINESH AGARWAL SHIMLA, MAY 22

Chief Electoral Officer, Maneesh Garg while detailing complaints received since the enforcement of Model Code of Conduct, stated that out of 1406 complaints received till date, 1235 have been decided. At the State and district contact center (toll free number 1950), 778 complaints were received out of which 691 were resolved. Besides this, 349 complaints were received through the State and district MCC Nodal officers out of which 266 were resolved and 279 complaints received through C-vigil App were decided within the time frame after getting the inquiries conducted and necessary action was taken where violations were



found, thus deciding 88 percent of the complaints received so far. Some of the prominent cases where action was taken are:
 - A FIR has been registered under section 341 and 323 IPC at Kaza in Lahaul & Spiti on the complaint filed by the BJP, for obstructing the rally of their Lok Sabha contesting candidate from Mandi Parliamentary constituency and investigation was underway. Also, notice has

been issued by the Returning officer cum SDM against the youth congress.
 - On the complaint by BJP regarding posting objectionable material of Ms Kangna Ranaut on the Facebook account by user 'Hamirpur Congress Youth Club', the matter has been forwarded to Election Commission of India with detailed inquiry report along-with a request to remove the post.
 - Multiple complaints were received from the legal cell of Congress party against the Lok Sabha BJP candidate, Ms Kangana Ranaut charging her with violation of MCC in her speeches while addressing election rallies and passing personal remarks against Vikramaditya Singh, the INC candidate. Notices were issued by DEO/ DC Mandi

and Kullu and further action is being taken. An Inquiry Report in this regard has also been sent to ECI.
 - DC Mandi has been directed to take action against Ms Kangna Ranaut for her public announcement regarding the medical treatment of a girl who was severely injured in an attack with a sharp edged weapon at Palampur bus stand.
 - Yet another notice has also been issued to Ms Kangana Ranaut by DC Mandi for her religious remarks during campaigning at different areas in Mandi.
 - On a complaint filed by BJP against INC candidate, Sh Vikramaditya Singh for making derogatory remarks against Ms Kangna Ranaut, inquiry has been made and report has been sent to Election Commission of India.

Our religion is ancient, it does not need new agency: Anand Sharma

SANJAY AGGARWAL DHARAMSHALA, MAY 22

Congress candidate from Kangra parliamentary constituency Anand Sharma said that in the current elections, BJP is not talking about its promises and is asking for votes in the name of Modi. Votes are being sought in the name of religion. Questioning BJP and PM Modi, he said that even before your arrival, there were temples here, there was faith, even if you are not there, we and the people of the country will worship. Our religion is so ancient that it does not need any new agency which gives certificate of religion. Anand Sharma was addressing people in Kalyada, Rehlu, Shahpur, Mundla and Chadhi on Wednesday.
 He said that in the same way he has also taken up the contract of patriotism. As if there was no patriot before him. The situation is such that those who are with them are patriots, those who are not with them are traitors. Similarly, those who have different ideologies have become traitors in their eyes.
 Anand Sharma said that PA Modi has been claiming that for the last ten years a country has been formed, India has been recognized in the world, before me there was no respect for the country, the countrymen of



India used to beg with bowls. Describing these claims as a bundle of lies, he said that when the Manmohan government was removed from power, the country had given an economy of Rs 2 trillion.
 During the ten years of the UPA government, the country's GDP had increased four times. While the growth has not even doubled in the ten years of PM Modi's rule, the noise is so much that it seems as if what has been done. He said that the people of the country are fed up with Modi's wrong policies and now people want change in the country.

CM should reveal facts or stop misleading public: Ashish Sharma

RAJNEESH SHARMA HAMIRPUR, MAY 22

Ashish Sharma, MLA from the Sadar assembly constituency, responded to Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu's inappropriate and false statements made during a public meeting in Lambloo.
 Sharma criticized the Chief Minister for closing three institutions in the very area where he was holding the gathering. He mentioned that despite appeals to keep these institutions operational, the Chief Minister did not heed and proceeded to demolish a degree college, a PHC, and a veterinary dispensary that were established during the Jairam government.
 Sharma likened Sukhu to



Delhi's Chief Minister Kejriwal, who portrays himself as honest while labeling others as corrupt, yet now faces legal troubles.
 He accused Sukhu of making baseless accusations about mining mafia involvement and misleading people with unsubstantiated claims in his speeches. Sharma emphasized that the

public is well aware of the truth and will not be swayed by the Chief Minister's false allegations and rhetoric. Sharma challenged the Chief Minister to present any facts he claims to have, instead of spreading rumors. He argued that the pre-election period is the perfect time to disclose such information if it indeed exists.

Sukhu's dictatorial rule will end soon: Sudhir Sharma

SANJAY AGGARWAL DHARAMSHALA, MAY 22

BJP candidate from Dharamshala Sudhir Sharma said that Sukhu is running the state government dictatorially. Which is going to end soon. Sudhir Sharma said that the CM has forgotten that governments are run by wisdom and not by arrogance. Being the head of the state, one has to take everyone along, but what will happen to the common people if the CM starts harassing his own colleagues due to political rivalry. This can be easily guessed. Sudhir Sharma said that the day Congress lost in the Rajya Sabha elections, the CM should have resigned on the same day on moral grounds and should have



again entered the electoral fray, but for that public support is needed which is not there now for the Congress government.
 Neither is it near CM Sukhu. That's why they are cursing us to hide their flaws. Sudhir Sharma said that the CM has put the development of the state at stake to please his friends. Sudhir Sharma said that the CM is repeatedly making the women fill the forms worth Rs 1500, but the

reality is that from where will the government which has to pay salaries to its employees by taking loan, give Rs 1500 to the women.
 This clearly means that CM Sukhu is trying to save his position by misleading women. Apart from this, people also know that on one hand the CM is crying about the treasury being empty and on the other hand he is getting the forms filled for Rs 1500. Therefore, the public has

come to know everything and is not going to be misled by them now. Sudhir Sharma said that I have no personal fight with the CM. I am just fighting for the development of Dharamshala. Because the state government has stopped many projects of Dharamshala. Sudhir Sharma said that the Congress government should answer how many unemployed people have been given jobs in the last one and a half years. He said that leave alone providing jobs, the Congress government has failed to even declare the results of the recruitment examinations that have been conducted. Due to this, there is a wave of anger among the youth which will come out in the form of voting against Congress.

None of Congress promises fulfilled in Nadaun: Anurag



RAJNEESH SHARMA HAMIRPUR: Union Minister and BJP candidate for Hamirpur Lok Sabha seat, Anurag Thakur, intensified the political atmosphere with a series of rallies in Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu's home region, Nadaun. Thakur criticized CM Sukhu for failing to deliver on any of the promises made by the Congress party in his own constituency.
 Thakur mocked the unfulfilled promises, pointing out that neither the ₹1500 monthly stipend to women was given nor the promise to buy cow dung from farmers at ₹2 per kilogram was met. He also noted that farmers are still waiting for the government to purchase milk from them at ₹100 per liter as promised. Anurag Thakur questioned CM Sukhu's ability to deliver on promises across the entire state, stating that if he couldn't fulfill commitments in his home district and assembly, how could he be expected to deliver for all of Himachal Pradesh.

Golden Jubilee torch passed to UHF and HPKV in state action plan workshop

DINESH AGARWAL SHIMLA, MAY 22

At the recent State Action Plan Workshop 2024-25 held at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Sundemagar, the Dr YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni and CSK HPKV, Palampur were handed over the Golden Jubilee celebration torch from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi.
 In commemoration of the Golden Jubilee Celebration marking the establishment of first Krishi Vigyan Kendras in India, the ICAR has initiated a symbolic gesture of passing a digital torch among various KVKs nationwide. The first KVK established in 1974 in Puducherry, this torch represents the vital role KVKs play in advancing agricultural technology and uplifting the farming community. With 731



KVKs currently operational, these centers serve as crucial hubs for disseminating technological innovations from laboratory to farmland, thereby contributing to the nation's agricultural prosperity.
 The torch was ceremoniously transferred to UHF and HPKV by Dr. Parvender Sheoran, Director of ICAR's Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI), Zone I. Receiving the torch on behalf of their respective institutions were Dr Naveen Kumar, Director Extension from HPKV, and Dr Anil Sood, Joint Director Communications from UHF. This torch will now

embark on a journey across all KVKs in Himachal Pradesh, fostering a spirit of unity and progress among agricultural scientists and practitioners.
 The State Action Plan Workshop provided a platform for scientists from all KVKs in Himachal Pradesh to deliberate on strategies for the upcoming year. Sessions covering diverse topics including Crop Protection, Plant and Horticulture Sciences, Agroforestry, Animal Science, and Home Science were conducted, featuring presentations and interactive discussions aimed at enhancing agricultural productivity and sustainability.

Biodiversity important for environmental balance

RAJNEESH SHARMA HAMIRPUR, MAY 22

Biodiversity, which encompasses various species of animals and plants, is crucial for maintaining environmental balance. Scientists agree that a lack of biodiversity increases the risk of natural disasters such as floods, droughts, and storms. Earth has already experienced five mass extinctions primarily due to natural events like volcanic eruptions, ice ages, meteor impacts, and continental collisions. Some scientists believe that human activities such as uncontrolled exploitation of forest resources and pollution of air and water could lead to a sixth mass extinction.
 We must collectively work towards creating an



environment rich in biodiversity, sustainable, and conducive to economic activities. It is essential to plant trees near homes or in public spaces to keep the environment green and ensure clean air. Hem Lal, the in-charge, emphasized that International Biodiversity Day is celebrated on May 22 each year to raise awareness about biodiversity issues.

This year's theme, "Be Part of the Plan," highlights that even small efforts can significantly contribute to environmental protection. Collaboration among governments, communities, organizations, businesses, and individuals is necessary to protect biodiversity and ensure that Earth remains a place where all living beings can not only survive but thrive.

District Expenditure Monitoring Committee reviews cash seizure cases

KISHORI LAL BAINS

UNA: The District Expenditure Monitoring Committee of Una convened a meeting on Wednesday to review cash seizure cases conducted by static surveillance teams and flying squads formed for election expenditure monitoring. The meeting was chaired by Additional Deputy Commissioner and District Expenditure Monitoring Committee Chairman Mahendra Pal Gurjar. District Treasury Officer Vishal Raghuvanshi and Credit Scheme Officer Sanjay Sankhyani also participated. The main discussion centered around a significant cash seizure of Rs. 14,08,170, which was confiscated by a static surveillance team deployed in the Chintpurni Assembly constituency.



This cash was seized on May 17, 2024, from a private vehicle belonging to a resident of Bhaira, Una, near Thathal. The individual failed to provide the source or documents for the cash, leading to its deposit in the sub-treasury of Amb. The committee decided to transfer the seized amount to the Deputy Commissioner of Tax and Excise in Una. Mahendra Pal Gurjar mentioned that a letter was received from the office of the Deputy Director of Income Tax (Investigation), Parwanoo, on May 21, requesting the handover of the seized amount to the Income Tax Officer in Una. After thorough deliberation and examination of related documents, the committee instructed the SDM (ARO) Amb and the Treasury Officer Amb to transfer the seized cash to the Deputy Commissioner of Tax and Excise in Una as per the income tax department's warrant.

Dr. Sanjeev Guleria lauds Sukhu Govt's pension reform in HP

SANJEEV MAHAJAN NURPUR, MAY 22

Dr. Sanjeev Guleria acknowledged the significant contribution of the 136,000 employees in Himachal Pradesh in bringing the Congress Party to power. He praised the Sukhu government for not disappointing these employees, highlighting the historic decision to abolish the New Pension Scheme (NPS) and restore the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) during the first cabinet meeting.



This move has made Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu popular among employees and the public, earning him the nickname "Pension Man." Dr. Guleria mentioned that CM Sukhu has repeatedly requested the central government under PM Modi, both in writing and verbally, to return the Rs. 9,000 crore owed to the state for employee pensions.
 Despite these efforts, there has been no response from the Modi government. He further stated that the Sukhu government is soon going to introduce a bill in the assembly to permanently establish the OPS in the state, ensuring that future governments cannot discontinue it.
 Dr. Guleria urged employees who are part of the OPS and retired employees with less than ten years of service to support the Sukhu government by voting for the Congress Party.

Mining mafia exploiting mineral wealth in Shukkar and Pung Khadd: CM

DINESH AGARWAL BILASPUR, MAY 22

Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu criticized the previous BJP government for allowing the exploitation of public resources. Speaking at election rallies in Bilaspur, Ghumarwin, and Jhanduta in support of Congress Lok Sabha candidate Satpal Raizada, Sukhu accused the BJP of facilitating the looting of mineral wealth by large mafias, particularly in the Shukkar and Pung Khadd regions. He stated that crushers were installed in these areas, depleting the mineral resources. Sukhu claimed that such corrupt activities enabled the government to generate an additional revenue of ₹2,200 crore in one year by tightening



its grip on corruption. He alleged that BJP, under the leadership of Jairam Thakur, conspired to topple the Congress government, involving six Congress MLAs and three independents who switched sides.
 Sukhu accused these defectors, particularly Inderdutt Lakhnawal, of betrayal and rebranding them with derogatory names. The Chief Minister highlighted the financial challenges faced by

his government upon taking office, stating that there were no funds even for a week's expenses. However, he assured that salaries would be paid and the government would function by closing the avenues of corruption.
 Sukhu confidently predicted that none of the defectors would win in the upcoming elections on June 4, asserting that the BJP loyalists would not vote for them. He dismissed Jairam Thakur's

prediction of dual BJP victories in Himachal Pradesh and Delhi, emphasizing that the Congress government was stable with a clear majority. He mentioned that his administration had already initiated the process of issuing appointment letters for government positions after resolving legal disputes.
 The government has also identified 40,000 vacant positions and has issued 22,000 new recruitment notifications within a year. In contrast, the previous BJP government managed only 20,000 hirings in five years while depleting the state treasury. Sukhu criticized BJP for attempting to delay pension payments to women and for obstructing wage increases for MNREGA workers.

Editorial

Reliable measure

Election times are marked by high-decibel propaganda and the athletic throw of words. Come elections, politicians and parties, otherwise silent on many issues, suddenly come into form and display their entire language repertoire to attract the attention of voters. Elections are a theatre in which logic, history, economics and data sciences are made to take the back benches while absurd sound bites, cacophony, false promises, bravado, posturing, lies and slander are given the front seats. If Holi is the festival of colours, elections are a festival of empty sounds. In democracies, politicians, the media, analysts, bloggers, strategists, crowds, psephologists — practically everyone — vie with one another to make the festival as noisy as they can. Slogans clash with counter-slogans, words clash with words, becoming, as Shakespeare put it, "airy nothings". But even amidst this din, occasionally, an eloquent phrase or metaphor appears, like a firefly in a forest of darkness, and lights up the space around. Rarely, but surely, some words or phrases manage to bring out the mood of the people and the social dynamics so pointedly that they stay in memory for long.

Such words or phrases cannot be coined by campaign designers or propaganda managers. They come up suddenly from ordinary speeches and occupy the centre stage of the people's imagination. I have always been interested in watching elections in order to understand what language does to politics. This is an enterprise which has nothing to do with psephology. Psephos — pebbles in Greek — lies at the root of the word, psephology. It seems that the Greeks used to drop pebbles in different pots to express their approval or solidarity with the contestants in an election. Later, in the Italian language, the 'pot' in which pebbles were dropped came to be called 'ballot', the ballot box of our times.

Perhaps the most eloquent and evocative word to surface in the 2024 parliamentary elections in India has come from a Gujarat-based journalist, Ajay Umat. Even as everyone is trying to guess the outcome of the first five rounds of these protracted elections held in a scorching summer, this journalist, who runs a digital news channel, predicted that "panho ochho padse". Translated into English, the phrase means 'the cloth's width will turn out to be inadequate'; in other words, 'there will be a hung Parliament with the ruling party facing an awkward shortfall in numbers.' This view is by now widely accepted among journalists, analysts, voters and the contestants themselves. But Umat's ingenuity does not lie in his estimation. That is already a commonplace inference.

Louisiana House passes bill to classify abortion drugs as controlled substances

The Louisiana state House recently approved an amended bill that could have profound implications for reproductive rights and healthcare in the state. This bill, which passed with a vote of 64-29, seeks to classify the abortion-inducing drugs misoprostol and mifepristone as Schedule IV controlled dangerous substances, placing them in the same category as highly regulated drugs such as narcotics and depressants, CNN reported.

Sponsored by Republican state Sen Thomas Pressly, Senate Bill 276 aims to criminalize the administration of abortion medication without consent.

The amendment to classify these drugs as Schedule IV substances was introduced after the bill passed out of the Senate, highlighting the contentious nature of the issue.

Pressly's motivation for proposing this legislation stems from personal experience, as he revealed that his sister was given misoprostol against her will. It's important to note that abortion is already banned in Louisiana without exceptions for cases of rape or incest, making this bill even more restrictive, as reported by CNN.

The process of a medication abortion involves taking mifepristone, which blocks the hormone progesterone necessary for pregnancy continuation, followed by misoprostol within the next 24 to 48 hours to induce uterine contractions.

While misoprostol has been available at pharmacies for decades and is approved for various medical uses, including preventing stomach ulcers, its inclusion in this bill as a controlled substance raises significant concerns.

Under the amended bill, possessing these drugs without a valid prescription could result in felony charges, punishable by up to five years in prison and fines of up to USD 5,000. However, there is an exemp-



tion for pregnant individuals in possession of mifepristone and misoprostol for their own consumption, and doctors would still be able to prescribe the drugs, according to CNN.

Despite the bill's passage in the House, it has faced widespread criticism from various quarters. Vice President Kamala Harris condemned the bill as "absolutely unconscionable," attributing it to the policies of former President Donald Trump. Conversely, the anti-abortion group Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America celebrated the bill's passage, framing it as a necessary measure to prevent drug abuse while ensuring access for legitimate medical reasons, such as miscarriage care.

The controversy surrounding the bill

has sparked outcry from a group of nearly 270 Louisiana physicians, health care providers, and medical students, who signed a letter expressing concerns over the reclassification of mifepristone and misoprostol. They argue that these drugs have not been shown to have any potential for abuse or dependence and are widely prescribed and taken safely for medical purposes.

In response to these concerns, Pressly defended the bill, asserting that it would not prohibit the prescription or dispensation of mifepristone and misoprostol for legitimate medical reasons. He further stated that the provision would not harm healthcare for women, citing consultations with medical professionals.

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If the state Senate accepts the amended bill passed by the House, it will proceed to the desk of Republican Gov Jeff Landry for final approval. If signed into law, Louisiana would become the only state to classify abortion drugs as controlled dangerous substances, potentially setting a precedent for other states to follow suit, CNN reported.

Literature & Health

Nepal's Everest Man- Kami Rita climbs Mount Everest for a record 30th time

Nepali Sherpa climber and guide Kami Rita Sherpa on Wednesday morning again set out a world record with the 30th summit of Mount Everest, a record number by a single person.



According to the Department of Tourism officials, overseeing the expedition in high high-lying Himalayas of Nepal, including Mount Everest, Kami Rita stood atop the world's highest peak for the 30th time this morning.

"This morning at 7:49 am, Kami Rita Sherpa broke his own record he had set just nine days earlier. This marks his 30th ascent to the top of the world," Khimlal Gautam, Chief of the Expedition Monitoring and Facilitation Field Office confirmed.

This is his second ascent of the season, after his first on May 12.

Kami Rita, a native of Thame village in Solukhumbu, Nepal has been working as Senior Guide at Seven Summit Treks.

The 54 old Sherpa climber has been scaling the mountains for over two

decades. His mountaineering journey began in 1992 when he joined an expedition to Everest as a support staff member.

Since then, Kami Rita has fearlessly embarked on numerous expeditions, summiting Everest multiple times. His achievements extend beyond Everest, as he has also conquered other formidable peaks, including K2, Cho Oyu, Lhotse, and Manaslu. Earlier on Tuesday, Kami Rita also had led a team of climbers to the top of the world's tallest peak.

Bangladeshi MP allegedly missing in India since May 18, investigation on

A Member of Parliament (MP) from Bangladesh's ruling party Awami League has allegedly gone missing in India since May 18, triggering a high-level search operation.

Anwarul Azim, the allegedly missing MP, entered India on May 12 and was last seen on the afternoon of May 13 when he went with friends to a home in Bidhannagar near Kolkata for a medical check-up.

According to a family friend in Kolkata's Bidhannagar, the MP mentioned he would be travelling to Delhi, but there has been no physical presence or direct contact with him since May 13.

Only mobile messages have been exchanged with his family in Dhaka and his friend in Bidhannagar, indicating his intended journey to Delhi.

Concerned by the lack of communication and his sudden alleged disappearance, the MP's family friend, Gopal Viswas, who was informed by the MP's daughter of her inability to contact her father, lodged a

missing person complaint at the Baranagar police station in Bidhannagar, Kolkata.

"On the morning of May 16, he (Anwarul Azim) called his assistant, but could not connect. Later, when his PA called him back, he did not answer," according to the complaint dated May 18, 2024.



"His daughter called me (Viswas), and said, I can't communicate with my father. Then I (Viswas) contacted all his (Anwarul Azim's) acquaintances on the phone, but it was not possible to contact him," it added.

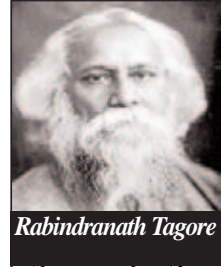
"I was then requested to come to Baranagar police station on May 18 to register the complaint in the missing diary," a copy of the complaint said.

Indian authorities have launched an investigation, with efforts being coordinated by the High Commissioner in Delhi and the Bangladesh Consulate in Kolkata. However, they are yet to release an official statement regarding the MP's alleged disappearance.

POEM

Silent Steps

Have you not heard his silent steps?
He comes, comes, ever comes.
Every moment and every age,
every day and every night he comes,
comes, ever comes. Many a song
have I sung in many a
mood of mind, but all
their notes have al-
ways proclaimed, 'He
comes, comes, ever
comes.' In the fragrant
days of sunny April
through the forest path he comes,
comes, ever comes. In the rainy
gloom of July nights on the thunder-
ing chariot of clouds he comes,
comes, ever comes.



Rabindranath Tagore

Rabindranath Tagore

Study finds novel therapeutic avenues in bone repair

Birmingham researchers have proven PEPITEM, a naturally occurring peptide (small protein) has potential as a novel therapy for osteoporosis and other illnesses that entail bone loss, with specific advantages over conventional medications.

PEPITEM (Peptide Inhibitor of Trans-Endothelial Migration) was discovered in 2015 by University of Birmingham researchers.

The latest research, published today in Cell Reports Medicine, demonstrates for the first time that PEPITEM could be used as a novel and early clinical intervention to reverse the impact of age-related musculoskeletal diseases, with data demonstrating that PEPITEM enhances bone mineralisation, formation, and strength while also reversing bone loss in animal models of disease.

The research was funded by major grants from the Medical Research Council and the Lorna and Yuti Chernajovsky Biomedical Research Foundation, which funds pioneering re-



search into the creation of new targeted medicines to improve health. Other funders included the British Society for Research on Ageing, and Versus Arthritis.

Bone is constantly formed, reformed, and remodelled throughout life, and up to 10% of human bone is replaced annually through a complex interplay between two cell types - os-

teoblasts, which form bone, and osteoclasts, which breakdown bone. Disturbances to this tightly orchestrated process are responsible for features of diseases such as osteoporosis and rheumatoid arthritis, which show excessive bone breakdown, or ankylosing spondylitis, where abnormal bone growth occurs. The most commonly used osteoporosis therapies (bisphos-

phonates) target osteoclasts to prevent further bone loss. Although there are new 'anabolic' agents that can promote new bone formation, these have limitations in their clinical use, with teriparatide (parathyroid hormone, or PTH) only being effective for 24 months and romosozumab (anti-sclerostin antibody) being associated with cardiovascular events.

Therefore, there is a clear case for developing new therapies to stimulate bone repair in age-related musculoskeletal diseases, of which osteoporosis is the most common. Researchers led by Dr Helen McGettrick and Dr Amy Naylor, including Dr Jonathan Lewis and Ms Kathryn Frost, from the Institute of Inflammation and Ageing at the University of Birmingham and Dr James Edwards from Nuffield Department of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Sciences at the University of Oxford set out to investigate the potential therapeutic impact of PEPITEM in these disease states.

PEPITEM is a naturally occurring short protein (peptide) produced in the body and found circulating in every-one at low levels.

The research findings demonstrated that PEPITEM regulates bone remodelling and that increasing the amount present in the body stimulates bone mineralisation in 'young bones' that are not in a diseased or pre-osteoporotic state, and that this translates to an increase in bone strength and density similar to current standard of care drugs (bisphosphonates and PTH).

However, the key test for a potential new therapeutic is its ability to target the natural repair process that is compromised by age, or inflammatory disease.

Here the researchers showed that giving additional PEPITEM limits bone loss and improves bone density in animal models of the menopause, which is a common trigger for osteoporotic bone loss in humans. Their studies also showed similar findings in models of inflammatory bone disease

(arthritis), where PEPITEM significantly reduced bone damage and erosion.

These findings were underscored by studies using human bone tissue, harvested from older patients during joint surgery. These studies showed cells from older individuals respond to PEPITEM, significantly increasing the maturation of osteoblasts, and their ability to produce and mineralise bone tissues.

Their cell and tissue culture work showed PEPITEM has a direct effect on osteoblasts to promote bone formation, by increasing the activity of osteoblasts rather than their number. Further studies identified the NCAM-1 receptor as the specific receptor for PEPITEM on osteoblasts, and strongly suggested the NCAM-1-b-catenin signalling pathway is responsible for the upregulation of osteoblast activity. This receptor, and the pathway, are distinct from PEPITEM receptors that have been previously described in other tissues.

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA

AMBALA: National President of Anti Terrorist Front India, Veeresh Shandilya said that Pakistani terrorists, terrorists like Babbar Khalsa and radicals like Gurpatwant Singh Pannu, who conspired to run Jarnail Singh Bhindranwala's Khalistani

campaign in India, do not deserve to survive and the country which accepts this terrorist Pannu does not deserve to live. Those who are giving protection are not only anti-India but are also the countries giving protection to terrorism. Veeresh Shandilya on the statement of

Gurpatwant Singh Pannu that he lured the fundamentalists and Khalistanis of Punjab with dollars to surround the country's Prime Minister in Punjab. Anti-Terrorist Front India accepts the challenge of Pannu, the son of Mughals, and openly punishes Pannu. General Veeresh

Shandilya challenged and said that the status of Prime Minister Modi is very big in the world, if Pannu is the seed of reality, the blood running in her body is not of Pakistani terrorists, then even if he threatens this by coming to Jarnail Singh Bhindranwala's district in Punjab.

International Biodiversity Day celebrated at GNK Group of Institutions



R K KASHYAP CHHACHHRAULI: Haryana Biodiversity Board organised a special programme to celebrate International Biodiversity Day at Guru Nanak Khalsa Group. The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from students and teachers of Guru Nanak Khalsa College Yamunanagar, Guru Gobind Singh College of Pharmacy and Guru Nanak Khalsa Institute of Technology and Management. The program was inaugurated by the chief guest, Vasavi Tyagi, Chief Conservator of Forest, Ambala and special guest Dr. Virendra Singh Gill, District Forest Officer, Yamunanagar. The event witnessed several activities including morning awareness rally, poster making competition, slogan writing competition and captivating drama and mime performance by the students of GNK Group. Dr. Peer Ghulam Nabi, Chief Executive Officer, GNK Group of Institutions, in his inaugural address emphasized that the society and the state have a responsibility towards the future generations. Therefore, ecological conservation must be central to the development agenda. He urged everyone to take active participation in the conservation of biodiversity. Emphasized the important role of biodiversity conservation in sustainable development.

Election campaign is getting tremendous support: Darshan Kangra



BALWINDER AZAD BARNALADEHATE: Sukhpal Singh Khaira, Congress Party candidate from Sangrur Lok Sabha constituency, Kuldeep Singh Kala Dhillon of Congress Party, District President Barnala, Chand Singh Chopra former MLA along with Sukhpal Khaira reached in village Gumti under election campaign. Addressing a large gathering at a function organized under the leadership of senior Dalit leader Darshan Singh Kangra, he said that the BJP and Aam Aadmi Party in power have deprived the poor of their rights. He said that these selfish governments, which came to power by making a false promise of depositing Rs 15-15 lakh in the accounts of people and Aam Aadmi Party giving Rs 1000-1000 to every woman of Punjab, have not still fulfilled any of their promises. Today they on what grounds they came to power for votes. They have no right to ask for votes. Sukhpal Khaira said that the Congress party has also given MNRGA and free ration scheme. He said that if the Congress government was formed in the country, then MNRGA workers would be given benefits in rural areas of Rs 200 to Rs 400 per day, guaranteed work from 100 to 200 days in a year, cheap ration per member would be increased from 5 kg to 10 kg, poor women and unemployed youth in the country would be given Rs 1 lakh every year.

Congress wants to get votes from people through jihad and lies: CM Saini

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA KARNAL, MAY 22

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dream is that every Indian should have a roof over their heads. Houses were provided to 4 crore people in ten years and a target of 3 crore houses has been set in coming years. It is Prime Minister Modi's guarantee that 50 crore people were connected by opening bank accounts.

Chief Minister Nayab Saini said this in a public meeting in Kalampara. BJP workers encouraged Chief Minister Saini by presenting him a mace. Encouraged by enthusiasm of the workers, CM said that Congress wants to take votes from the people through 'vote jihad' and lying.

Till now she has been getting votes by showing



dreams to the poor. Rahul Gandhi is lying to poor like his grandmother Indira Gandhi and father Rajiv Gandhi. Indira Gandhi kept getting votes by giving slogans of eradicating poverty and her father Rajiv Gandhi used to talk about sending all money for the

schemes for the poor but he also used to say that out of one rupee, 85 paise gets distributed. Congress did not discover that 85 paise.

Now Rahul Gandhi says that if everyone votes for him, he will eradicate poverty from the country in a jiffy but does not talk about

how this will be possible. Rahul Baba will not get votes by lying. He said that the real fight against poverty has been fought by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. In ten years, the poor, farmers and women have directly benefited from the schemes. Congress made people stand in line for three days for gas, but PM Modi provided gas to their homes at a rapid pace.

Modi government built toilets for women in 11.50 crore houses in 10 years. Besides, ration is also being provided to 80 crore people. PM Modi's vision is that no poor should remain hungry. Vision of Congress is to always keep country weak but PM Modi wants to keep it strong and powerful to make developed India. BJP has given rapid development to country in ten years.

Make Modi strong PM by ensuring BJP win on May 25: Manohar Lal

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA KARNAL, MAY 22

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidate from Karnal Lok Sabha seat and former Chief Minister Manohar Lal on Wednesday took out a public relations campaign and road show in Karnal, Nilokheri and Gharaunda areas. Despite the scorching heat and poor health, Manohar Lal reached among people to ask for votes. Attacking previous Congress government, he enumerated works of the BJP government of state and appealed to vote in large numbers in support of the BJP on May 25. Manohar Lal said that the double engine government of BJP in the state and the center left no stone unturned for the development of the people. We gave jobs to the youth without any expense and without any slip. Work has



been done to eliminate corruption from the state. During the time of Congress government, law and order had become bankrupt. Everyone was troubled by his actions, but with coming of BJP government, law and order improved and people developed. Manohar said that BJP government changed lives of youth and farmers. There has been equal development everywhere in

state. Modi government at Center also left no stone unturned in the development of the country. Full respect has been given to farmers, youth, women, soldiers and elders. Prime Minister is going to become the Prime Minister of the country for the third consecutive time. Therefore, I appeal to all the people of state to make Modi a more powerful Prime Minister on May 25.

Election Marathon will be organized on May 25: DEO



DAVINDER SHARMA RUPNAGAR, MAY 22

District Election Officer cum Deputy Commissioner, Rupnagar, Dr. Preeti Yadav said that a Green Election Marathon will be organized on May 25 at 5:00 am from Maharaja Ranjit Singh Park to Shaheed Azam Bhagat Singh Chowk. He said that it will be held on June 1. This marathon is being organized with the aim of increasing voting in the Lok Sabha elections and making the youth aware about the environment, which will be inaugurated by the General Observer.

Navin Jindal receives warm welcome from Kaithal Bar members

RANVIR PARASHAR

KAITHAL: Lok Sabha BJP candidate Navin Jindal visited the Kaithal District Court, where he was warmly received by the Vice President, Secretary and other distinguished Bar members present at Kaithal Court. Advocates who were present in fairly large numbers welcomed Navin Jindal, who equally made it a point to meet each and every advocate present in the Bar room personally.

The Bar Room was filled to its complete capacity as advocates listened attentively to Jindal's appeal for their support in the upcoming elections; Emphasizing his commitment to strengthening the hands of our Honorable Prime Minister Sh. Narendra



Modi. Navin Jindal, inspired by his father Shri O.P. Jindal, expressed his motivation for entering active politics.

He shared with all that his father instilled in him this strong belief, that success in politics comes from personally connecting with people. Running for office at the

parliament; according to Shri O.P. Jindal, was merely a means to meet the masses. During the visit, the Secretary of the Bar Association raised a specific demand for assistance in reopening their canteen, which had been forcibly sealed by the local District Magistrate.

Students give message of corruption free India through drawings

SHIV KUMAR SHARMA

KARNAL: Anti Corruption Foundation of India organized a drawing competition on the title Corruption Free India at Sheikhupura Khalsa Senior Secondary School in which more than fifty students participated. The program was presided over by National Supremo Narendra Arora and National Director Ajit Rahi. On this occasion, consolation prizes were given to all the participants. After the decision of the jury, the names of the winning participants were announced by International President Mahila Cell Dr. Nisha Gupta. In the competition, first prize of 1100 rupees was won by Kashish, second prize of 500 rupees by Navya and third prize of 250 rupees was won by Jyoti. The participants made a message drawing on the title Corruption Free India. On this occasion, Narendra Arora said that under the Corruption Free India campaign, the Foundation makes people aware by organizing competitions like drawing, slogan, speech etc. in educational institutions.

He said that by administering the oath of integrity to the students, they are inspired to make their family members take the oath. On this occasion, Dr. Nisha Gupta said that daughters have received all three awards. This conveys the message of Corruption Free India as well as the message of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao. On this occasion, mainly National Director Mahesh Hasija, National Director Satish Malhotra, State Director Haryana Satish Jangra, District Director, Karnal Rajendra Grewal, Gaurav Srivastava, Preeti, Arpan Lakhanpal, School Principal Harmeet Kaur, Rana Simran Singh, Arpan Lakhanpal etc. were present.

RS Jethi leaves AAP along with his colleagues



KULJIT SINGH DHINGRA RAMPURA PHUL: RS Jethi, who was very close to Constituency MLA Balkar Singh Sidhu, and former block president of Aam Aadmi Party Raju Jethi along with a large number of his colleagues have left the Aam Aadmi Party, announced. He said that he will soon decide his new strategy by meeting with his colleagues. It may be mentioned that both the leaders were angry with MLA Balkar Singh Sidhu for a long time. After a meeting with their colleagues at a marriage place in the local city, RS Jethi and Raju Jethi said that they had freely helped Balkar Singh Sidhu during the assembly elections and by working hard day and night, Sidhu's dream of becoming an MLA came true. have done. Despite this, after becoming an MLA, Sidhu did not respect the workers and handed over the reins of the Rampura Phul constituency to his two colleagues living in the rest of the constituency. He said that due to this attitude of the MLA, most of the workers who helped during the elections are looking disappointed.

International Biodiversity Day commemorated at GNK Group Of Institutions



RAHUL KOHLI

KAITHAL: Haryana Biodiversity Board organised a special event to celebrate International Biodiversity Day at Guru Nanak Khalsa (GNK) Group. The event saw enthusiastic participation of students and faculty from Guru Nanak Khalsa College Yamunanagar, Guru Gobind Singh College of Pharmacy. The event was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Ms. Vasvi Tyagi, Chief Conservator of Forests, Ambala and Guest of Honour Dr. Virender Singh Gill, District Forest Officer Yamunanagar. The event witnessed a plethora of activities including a Morning Awareness Rally, Poster Making Competition, Slogan Writing Competition, and captivating skits and meme performances by students of GNK Group. Dr. Peer Ghulam Nabi, Chief Executive Officer of GNK Group of Institutions, in his inaugural address, stressed that society and state have a responsibility towards future generations. Therefore, ecological preservation has to be central to the development agenda. He urged everyone to take active participation in preserving biodiversity.

The Great Khali comes in support of Manohar Lal



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA

NEELOKHERI: Former Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal has intensified the election campaign. The election excitement in Karnal Lok Sabha constituency has reached its peak due to Manohar Lal's road show. Manohar Lal, through road shows in Nilokheri, Gharaunda and Karnal on Wednesday, appealed to the public not to miss the vote in the interest of the country and not to forget the BJP's mark of 400.

He said during the road show that every village has the enthusiasm to blossom lotus and every person was enthusiastic about the festival of democracy. The wave across the country to make Modi Prime Minister for the third time was getting stronger with every election phase. He said that the people with the dream of a bright future in their eyes were determined to realize Janardan Modi's slogan of '400 Paar'. Describing the crowd gathering at BJP's programs as a yardstick, he said that people were defeating even the scorching sun and were gathering for Modi.

4 accused arrested in case of murder

RAMAN GUPTA

KAITHAL: During prompt action in the case of murder of a youth and throwing his body in the drain, the team of Police Station City SHO Inspector Bir Singh arrested accused Dixit, resident of SBI Road Kaithal, Sachin, resident of Kanungo Mohalla Kaithal, Sagar and Verma Colony, resident of Pratap Gate Kaithal. Nitin, resident of Franswala Road, Kaithal, was controlled. DSP Gurvinder Singh said that according to the complaint of Ram mehar, a resident of Patel Nagar Kaithal, on May 20, at around 9.15 pm, he had come to the Jagran of Khatu Shyam at Badi Devi Mata Temple with his only son Anshul. When he called his son at 11.27 pm, he told him that he was with his friend Dixit and would come in five minutes. After some time, when he called again, she did not pick up the phone. He called about ten times and later the number got switched off. After around 12 o'clock in the night, he got a call from Dixit's father that Dixit was hurt.

When he went to him, Dixit told that four to five youths had come in two vehicles and they had taken Anshul away. He was also beaten up. Regarding which a case of kidnapping was registered in the city police station. On May 21, in the afternoon, Anshul's body was found in the Kaithal drain between Dhand Road and Ambala Road. In which case sections related to murder were added. Orders were given by SP Upasana to arrest the accused as soon as possible. The accused were caught during prompt action. Initial inquiry revealed that the accused had a fight with the deceased a few days ago over some issue, out of that rivalry the accused took Anshul to a drain and killed him by hitting him with a needle and a block brick.

Congress wants power to save the corrupt: Nayab Saini



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA KARNAL: Chief Minister Nayab Saini said during the election campaign in Dabri and Ratangarh that the country has taken a new turn under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Today every section has got the benefit of the schemes. In ten years, women have become empowered and farmers have become stronger. On one hand, the confidence of the youth in this government has increased, while on the other hand the poor have got a lot of facilities. The Modi government gave Ayushman cards for free treatment to the poor. The Chief Minister said that after June 4, Prime Minister Modi has taken a pledge, Ayushman cards will be given to the elderly above 70 years. Women's self-help groups will be strengthened. In the coming days, three crore women will be made Lakhpati Didi, currently only one crore are Lakhpati Didi. PM Modi does what he says, this is Modi's guarantee. Modi government has done a lot of work for the upliftment of the poor. Congress wants to come to power not for the development of the country but to save the corrupt. Today there is a Modi wave in the country.

Suman Saini appeals to vote for Manohar Lal and Nayab Saini



SHIV KUMAR SHARMA

KARNAL: Suman Saini, wife of State Chief Minister and BJP candidate in Karnal Assembly by-election, Nayab Singh Saini, said that Narendra Modi should be elected Prime Minister for the third time to make the nation prosperous and developed. Your every vote is important for taking the country forward. Therefore, on May 25, go out of the house and vote and press the lotus flower button. Chief Minister's wife Suman Saini attended the public meeting organized by rice industrialist Anil Narang in Sector 13 in Karnal.

During this, Anil Narang's wife Sudha Narang, industrialist Rajiv Narang and his wife Radhika Narang, Punit Narang, Vandana Narang, Savita Kabirpanthi, councillor Veervikram and Rakesh Hans welcomed Suman Saini with flower bouquets. Suman Saini appealed to vote for BJP candidate from Karnal Lok Sabha, former Chief Minister Manohar Lal and BJP candidate for Assembly by-election, Naib Singh Saini. The people present in the public meetings assured that they will work to make Manohar Lal win with huge votes to make Narendra Modi the Prime Minister for the third time and will also plant lotus flowers in Karnal in the assembly by-elections.

Phoenix Club to build residential township for 750 birds: Gulati



DALBIR MALIK

KURUKSHETRA: It is a matter of great joy for all that the construction of the long awaited project Phoenix Bird House has started in Swarg Ashram located in Sector 5. Giving this information, Phoenix Club President Dheeraj Gulati said that today the foundation stone of the township was laid by all the members of the club. Surendra Dhingra was the project director of the program organized on this occasion. This construction work will be done under the supervision of former club president Vijesh Elwadi and Arun Gupta and Anil Singla. On this occasion, Sachin Deepak, Treasurer Dr. Neeraj Jhamb, former President Vivek Kakkar, Vishal Madan, Gursevak Singh, Ravi Nandan Ahuja, Rajesh Chhabra, Jitendra Mehta, Rajesh Popli, Sunil Kalra, Dinesh Chhabra, Kirti Khosla, Gaurav Ishpujani and other members. Be present. Dheeraj Gulati said that workers have been specially called from Gujarat to construct it. This bird house will be built about 60 feet high and it will have space for 750 birds to live in it, which will survive any natural disaster like storm, storm, rain etc.

Haryana PWD Mechanical Employees Union meeting held



KAPIL ARORA

SHAHABAD MARKANDA: All Haryana PWD related to Haryana Employees Federation held meeting of Mechanical Employees Union Executive Shahabad at Krishna Temple Dharamshala under the chairmanship of Provincial Head Narendra Dhiman. The stage was conducted by District Head Ramniwas Sharma. Provincial General Secretary Amrik Singh Chou and Praveesh Gauri addressed the employees present in meeting. Provincial head Narendra Dhiman said that LTC of all employees will be extended.

Payment is being deliberately delayed by the Haryana Government and departmental administration. Employees should be given full benefits of medical facilities under Ayushman and Chirayu Scheme. He said that Class IV employees should be given benefit of one increment on promotion to Class III. 51 posts of Road Inspector should be restored in Public Works Department. He said that employees working on post of Canal Guard in the Irrigation Department should be given third class pay scale.

Diana Penty celebrates International Tea Day



Actor Diana Penty celebrated International Tea Day with a candid picture. Diana took to Instagram Story and shared a candid click where she can be seen enjoying her tea. "For the love of tea", she wrote. International Tea Day is observed on May 21 every year. This day is celebrated to recognise the contributions of the tea industry and promote fair trade and investment in the area. The day gives recognition to tea and the people who work in the tea business. Meanwhile, on the work front, Diana was seen in the action thriller film 'Bloody Daddy' alongside Shahid Kapoor.

Manisha Koirala meets UK PM Rishi Sunak



Actor Manisha Koirala recently met with UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak at 10 Downing Street here. She represented her country, Nepal, as it celebrated 100 years of its 'friendship treaty' with the UK. A while ago, Manisha took to Instagram and shared pictures from her meeting with the PM.

"It was an honour to be invited to 10 Downing Street to celebrate United Kingdom - Nepal relations and 100 years of our friendship treaty. It was such a pleasure to hear the Prime Minister @rishisunakmp speak fondly of our country #nepal. I took the liberty of inviting the P.M. and his family to come trek to Everest Base Camp," Manisha wrote in the caption.

She also expressed her elation over learning how most attendees during the meet had watched her latest release 'Heeramandi'. "Can you believe that most of the attendees had seen #heeramandi-onnetflix and loved it? I was thrilled," she added.

Meanwhile, on the acting front, Manisha is being lauded for her role as Mallika Jaan in Sanjay Leela Bhansali's debut web series 'Heeramandi'.

A few days ago, in a lengthy note on Instagram, Manisha chronicled her journey of resuming work after battling ovarian cancer, portraying an important character in the lavish period drama, and getting her due as a female actor thanks to streamers.

The note read, "Heeramandi has been a significant milestone. As a 53-year-old actor who has bagged an important role in a high-profile web series, I am overjoyed that I'm not stuck playing insignificant peripheral roles, thanks to OTT platforms and changing audience profiles. Finally, female actors, technicians, and other professionals have started getting the long overdue and well-deserved good quality of work and respect in a professional environment. I am fortunate to be a part of this evolving era."

Manisha recalled the doubts and anxiety that plagued her when she started shooting for Sanjay Leela Bhansali's directorial. She added, "Today, when I am receiving so many accolades, I can't help but remember the doubts and anxiety that plagued me when I was about to start shooting. Still recovering from the dreaded C, would my body be strong enough to deal with the intense shooting schedules, heavy costumes, and jewelry, and perform a role requiring so much nuance and effortless effort?"

She also shared the challenges faced during performing particular sequences.

Abhishek Bachchan gets nostalgic as 'Yuva' clocks 20 years

How time flies! Mani Ratnam's 2004 film 'Yuva', which was released on May 21, completed 20 years this week.

Interestingly, the film came out during the General Elections. And now it marked its 20th anniversary at a time when India is busy hosting the 18th Lok Sabha Elections.

With 'Yuva', Ratnam underlined the importance of the direct participation of the Youth in elections. Actors Abhishek Bachchan, Rani Mukerji, Vivek Oberoi, Ajay Devgn and Kareena Kapoor Khan played pivotal roles in the fictionalized political drama.

As the film completed two decades recently, Abhishek, who essayed the character of Lallan Singh, took to Instagram and re-shared one of the posts of his fan about 'Yuva'.

"My God! Can't believe it's been 20 years," he wrote. Reportedly, Hrithik was first offered Abhishek's role in the film. Meanwhile, in the coming months, Abhishek will be seen heading Shoojit Sircar's film. It will be released on November 15.

The project was officially launched at Prime Video's event in Mumbai in March this year. While Abhishek and Shoojit did not disclose the title of the film, the duo assured that the project would bring a smile to audiences' faces. "I make films about ordinary lives and try to make those ordinary characters extra ordinary. This film will make you smile and will make you feel warm," Shoojit said at the event. The official synopsis of the project read, "Sometimes life gives us a second chance," and for Arjun, who settled in the USA in pursuit of 'The American Dream', it's an opportunity to rediscover and embrace the precious bond he shares with his daughter.

From a pauper to NRI: cast of Sony SAB's 'Aangan Apno Kaa' share their experience of donning various avatars in a recent track

CHANDIGARH: Sony SAB's Aangan Apno Kaa narrates a heart-warming tale of a single father Jaidev Sharma (Mahesh Thakur) and his three daughters Deepika (Neetha Shetty), Tanvi (Aditi Rathod) and Pallavi (Ayushi Khurana). In the current track, the three daughters have come together to trap the fraudster Pappi Mehra (Ashwin Kaushal), who has wronged not only the Sharma family but also Pallavi's in-laws, the Awasthi family.

To catch Pappi in his web of lies, Tanvi has transformed into Manu Ahluwalia, an NRI woman who has come to India to sell her land. Donning a blonde wig, a beach hat, and speaking with a foreign accent, Tanvi is nailing her new role. Meanwhile, Deepika has swapped her naturally curly hair for a straight-hair wig and adopted a fake accent to pose as Tanvi's assistant. Other family members have taken on various roles to make Tanvi's profile as a wealthy and influential NRI convincing. Pallavi, disguised with a moustache, beard, and large spectacles, acts as her helping hand. Varun (Waseem Mushtaq) assumes the role of her driver, while Rakesh (Yash Pandit) becomes a beggar, singing her praises to Pappi as she generously donates dollars. It may seem like a seamless transition on screen, however, the actors agreed that it was not as easy as it seems.

Aditi Rathod, who essays the role of Tanvi, said "I have become used to being Tanvi, so getting into the role of an NRI Manu Ahluwalia was stepping out of my comfort zone. It was very challenging as well as interesting to adapt and carry the accent. All of us had a fun time getting into our new looks and speaking in a certain way. Both Deepika and I kept talking in our new accents to ensure we had a continuous grasp on it. I hope I have been able to do a good job and entertain the audience."

Ayushi Khurana, who essays the role of Pallavi, said "I was disguised as a male help because my character Pallavi wanted to be a part of the act to ensure nothing goes wrong. I had to wear a fake mole, moustache, and a beard. Every morning when I come to set, I greet my on-screen papa (Mahesh Thakur) but when I went to see him with my new look, he thought I was a character artist. While it was fun shooting in the new look, wearing the beard 14 hours was quite irritating. Despite not being able to eat or smile, I somehow managed to deliver my dialogues."



Working on Panchayat was quite challenging: Neena Gupta



Veteran actor Neena Gupta is coming back with her role of Manju Devi in the third season of 'Panchayat'.

Gearing up for the release of 'Panchayat 3', Neena Gupta took a stroll down memory lane and recalled shooting for one of the most popular web shows.

"When director Deepak Kumar came to me and narrated the script I was quite impressed. I really liked the script. In fact, I found the dialogues very much interesting. I also fell in love with my role," Neena Gupta told. She also admitted facing challenges while shooting for 'Panchayat', which was shot in Mahodiya village of Madhya Pradesh. "Working on Panchayat was challenging as I had to work on my language," Neena Gupta added. Written by Chandan Kumar and directed by Deepak Kumar Mishra, 'Panchayat' traces the life of a young man from Delhi who joins as a secretary in a Panchayat office in a remote village of Uttar Pradesh.

Discussing the arc of Manju Devi, Deepak Kumar said that the character has evolved over the seasons.

"Earlier, she was least involved in village politics but now she is aggressively getting involved in the politics. Her character has shown a growth towards the political front," Deepak Kumar shared.

Preity Zinta boards Cannes flight to attend 77th film festival

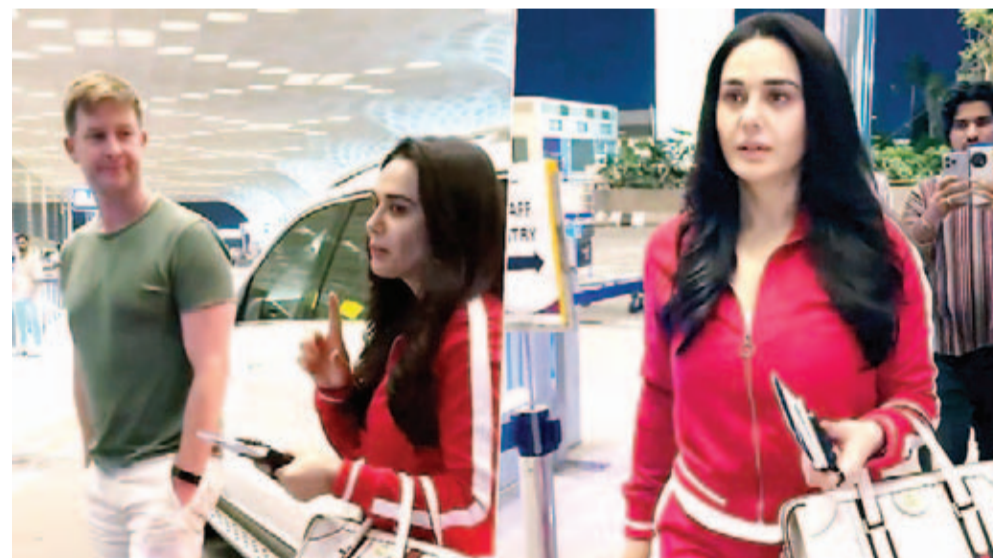
After a very long time, actress Preity Zinta will once again walk the Cannes red carpet.

The 'Dil Se..' star was spotted at the Mumbai airport at midnight on Wednesday. Before entering the airport premises, she was captured by the shutterbugs.

Preity was all smiles as she posed for them in a hurry. But what caught our attention and made us go 'aww' was how her husband Gene Goodenough escorted her to the airport. Preity gave him a tight hug before saying goodbye.

Reportedly, Preity made her Cannes debut in 2006. She attended the premiers of two films 'The Wind That Shakes The Barley' and 'Paris, Je T'aime' and was even lauded for her sense of style. Cut to 2013, Preity made a comeback at the French Riviera as the brand ambassador of the luxury watch brand, Chopard.

The 77th edition of the Cannes Film Festival, which opened on May 14, will run till May 25. India's Aishwarya Rai Bachchan recently stole attention with her glamorous presence at the prestigious film festival. Actress Aditi Rao Hydari is also in Cannes and will soon walk the iconic red carpet.



Rahul Jethwa's bond with brother Vishal: "We have an unbreakable bond like Ram and Laxman"

Chandigarh: National Brothers Day is celebrated yearly, signifying a brother's importance and role in our lives and honouring the bond of brotherhood. We caught up with one of two famous actor brothers—Rahul Jethwa, a television and film actor, who currently plays Awadh in TV's Atal, and Vishal Jethwa's brother. Rahul, reflects on his journey in the industry and bonds with his brother, who played an instrumental role in his career.

helped me understand the nuances and guided me through the journey.

2. Did he help you to get into the industry?

Vishal has been working in the industry for over 15 years, and his journey has inspired me immensely. We both agreed that any references he might provide me would be a shortcut to success. Instead, I would prefer to earn my own credit and respect through hard work and dedication. I wanted to make it on my own. However, his guidance and experience aided in understanding and learning the workings of the industry.

3. People often make comparisons; how do you take it?

It is common for people in society to compare themselves to others, but fortunately, my family taught me to reject this mindset. For example, if someone compliments my brother, I feel happy for him. Similarly, Vishal is proud of my work in 'Atal' and often praises me. To



about your bond with your brother? Is he more like a friend or a sibling who doesn't share their stuff?

My bond with Vishal is unique and extremely special. He plays multiple important roles in my life, and I can easily say he is my true kindred soul. He is a cherished friend when I need someone to talk to, a fun companion when I want to hang out, a wise mentor who I look up to for advice, and a supportive and protective presence in my life. He became a father figure to me after our dad's passing. He took the responsibility of providing for the family and supported us. We have an unbreakable bond like Ram and Laxman. We have an unspoken understanding, mutual respect, and a lot of affection for each other. We have similar tastes and styles and often share our clothes and shoes.

sum it up, 'I don't get affected by comparisons. We both are raised to support, respect and stand by each other, no matter what!' And that's what our bond is all about.

4. Speaking of bonds, can you elaborate a little

the family and supported us. We have an unbreakable bond like Ram and Laxman. We have an unspoken understanding, mutual respect, and a lot of affection for each other. We have similar tastes and styles and often share our clothes and shoes.

5. Can you please tell us about the most cherished gift Vishal has given you, which is very close to your heart?

One of the most treasured gifts that I have ever received in my life was from my brother. He gave me a phone and a bike, which have been invaluable to me in many ways. I was saving silently for both, but he knew what I wanted and gifted those to me at the right time. He has a way of knowing what I need, and that is truly amazing. I am incredibly grateful to my brother for his kindness, and I will always cherish these gifts as a symbol of his love and generosity.

6. Which is your favourite film of Vishal that you've enjoyed watching?

One of his movies, Salaam Venky, holds a special place in my heart. Its emotional storyline deeply resonates with me, connecting me with various emotions. The film's heartfelt narrative leaves a lasting impact, making it my favourite among all his works.