




REQUIRED
2 ROOMS FOR OFFICE SPACE
AVAILABLE FOR RENT IN
GANDHI NAGAR
NEAR TRIVENI
NURSING HOME
Contact
9858514887
9419116853

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Aayan Sharma
Class:- LKG
DOB:- 09-01-2017
JKPS Panjtirthi

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Ziva Gandotra
Class:- 1st
DOB:- 9th Jan
JKPS Panjtirthi

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Manya Gupta
Class:- 1st
DOB:- 09th Jan
JKPS Panjtirthi

BATCHES STARTING ON 10 JAN
NDA, CDS, AFCAT WRITTEN
JKP SI CRASH COURSE
ARMY GD WRITTEN
(2956 JOINED FORCES IN 5 YRS)
AT BRIGADIER JAMMAL'S
LAKSHYA DEFENCE
ACADEMY, JAMMU
CONTACT: 9797519939
GOVT REGISTERED WITH GSTIN

NOTICE
I, Tajinder Singh S/o Sarabjeet Singh R/o Ward No 4, Maralia, Miran Sahib Tehsil RS Pura District Jammu have purchased a vehicle (Car BEAT LT) bearing Regd. No. JK02BD-1128 from Rajan Nanda R/o 39/B, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. Now I am applying for transfer of the same. Objection if any may be conveyed to RTO Jammu within 7 days.

NOTICE
Our unit M/s Jai Bhaiya Enterprises is situated at EPIP Kartholi, Bari Brahmana is Permanent registered unit with DIC Jammu vide Registration No:- 07/004/11/14814 Dated:- 08/07/2021. Now we have applied for the Change of Constitution of our unit in DIC Jammu from Proprietorship concern to Partnership concern. Objection if any in person or departmental may kindly be conveyed to GMDIC within 7 days of the issuance of this notice.

NOTICE
It is to generally inform to public that Plot No. 12 Sector-II (2nd) Block-B Measuring 5400 Sft. situated at Panchvati Enclave Mishriwala, Jammu Colony developed by Jammu and Kashmir Coop. Housing Corp. Ltd. Jammu allotted to me and I have sold Plot to Smt Reva Magotra W/o Sh. Devinder Kumar Magotra R/o H.No 110 Lane No 1, Inder Vihar, Near Amba Theatre Old Janipur, Jammu. Objection if any may filed to M.D JKCHC within seven days from the publication of the notice.
Sh. Lekh Raj Sharma
S/o Sh. Dina Nath
R/o Nanak Nagar, Jammu

National Oil Conservation Week observed

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
AKHNOOR: National Oil Conservation Week is celebrated every year from 4th-10th of January all across the country aiming to raise awareness regarding the importance of conservation of the petroleum products. It also aims to encourage people regarding judicious use of petroleum products as well as importance of environmental protection. Indian Army has been on the forefront in raising awareness amongst local populace by various initiatives. Indian Army organised a lecture on ongoing

national oil conservation week in Govt High School, Hamirpur.
Army has identified education as a priority Area for activities because students have the potential to shape the future of the nation. The lecture was attended by a total of 60 people including students and teachers. School authorities highly appreciated the efforts of Indian Army for its noble initiative. The students and teachers expressed their gratitude towards Indian Army for its endeavours in the field of the education.

COVID-19 vaccination drive held at GDC Kathua

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
KATHUA: A vaccination drive was organised for the 15-18 Years Age Group in connection with COVID-19 Pandemic at GDC Kathua on Saturday. The vaccination drive was kick started in presence of Incharge Principal Prof. Raj Kiran and Dr. Vasna Sharma, District Immunization Officer Kathua.
It is pertinent to mention that besides bad weather conditions and heavy raining More than 100 students have been vaccinated at GDC Kathua. It is crucial that the COVID Positive

cases are increasing in the state and the college administration has taken a serious concern for the safety of the student community.
Consequently, This is for the 5th time that COVID-19 Vaccination Drive was organized at GDC Kathua at regular intervals and this will continue till all the students will be vaccinated.
The COVID-19 Vaccination was Coordinated by Dr J S Soodan, Physical Director, GDC Kathua along with Dr Rajav Singh (Nodal Officer), COVID-19 Pandemic district Kathua.

Among others from the medical team, who have coordinated are Dr Anuradha Gupta, Medical Officer, along with Sujata Kumari, Pooja Devi, Sarabjeet Kaur, FMPHW.
The faculty members who were present Prof Jaswinder Singh, HOD Physics, Prof. Rakesh Jasrotia, HOD Chemistry, Prof. Surya Partap Singh HOD Zoology, Prof. Neha Mahajan HOD Biotechnology, Prof. Manmohan Singh HOD History, Dr. Amrik Singh, Dr. Sanjeev Sharma and Prof. Kaurab singh.

GDC Sunderbani hosts Quiz Competition

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
RAJOURI: The Cultural Committee, NSS and NCC units of Government Degree College Sunderbani organized a Quiz Competition, on "Life and Teachings of Swami Vivekananda" here on Saturday under the patronage of Principal Prof. Vandana Gupta.
A total number of 32 students participated in the Quiz. In this event, Saloni Sharma (5th Sem) secured first position, 2nd position shared by Wasim Akram (5th Sem), Ravi kumar and Uttam Singh (3rd Sem) and

3rd position secured by Sourav Sharma (3rd Sem) respectively. Top three positions shall be awarded with Merit certificates. The aim of this Quiz competition was to inculcate the social and moral values among the students that had cherished by our social reformer in the past centuries, especially the Swami Vivekananda.
The event was organized by NSS Programme Officer Sham Lal, (Assistant Professor) department of Economics, NCC Officer, Ravi Kumar, and Prof. Sheraz Kousser convener of cultural committee.

NOTICE
I, Dr. Bharat Bushan Khajuria S/o Sat Pal Khajuria R/o H No 92, Street No 4, Shakti Nagar, Jammu have lost RC of my vehicle (CBZ Extreme) bearing Regd. No. JK02AP-4259. Now I am applying for duplicate of the same. Objection if any may be conveyed to RTO Jammu within 7 days.

FOR ADVERTISEMENT CONTACT
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adv.tstatetimes@gmail.com
STATE TIMES

Mandatory for parties to publish why candidate with criminal record selected for polls: EC

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
NEW DELHI: Political parties fielding candidates with criminal cases will have to mandatorily upload on their website details of such persons as also reasons for selecting them to contest the polls, the Election Commission said on Saturday.
The poll panel on Saturday announced assembly election schedule for Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Manipur and Goa. The polls will be held between February 10 and March 7 in seven phases, with counting of votes

on March 10.
The political party concerned will then submit a compliance report with the poll panel within 72 hours of the selection of the candidate.
If a political party fails to submit such compliance report with the Election Commission (EC), the poll panel will bring "such non-compliance by the political party concerned to the notice of the Supreme Court as being in contempt of its directions".
Following the directions of the Supreme Court in March, 2020, in successive polls, the

Commission had been asking parties to furnish such information.
It is mandatory for political parties (at the central and state election level) to upload on their website detailed information regarding individuals with pending criminal cases, including the nature of the offences and details such as whether charges have been framed who have been selected as candidates.
The parties will also have to provide the reasons for such selection, "as also as to why other individuals without criminal antecedents could

not be selected as candidates," the Commission's statement on the five assembly elections said.
"The reasons as to selection shall be with reference to the qualifications, achievements and merit of the candidate concerned, and not mere 'winnability' at the polls," the EC said.
The information will also be published in one local vernacular newspaper and one national newspaper; and has to be uploaded on the official social media platforms of the political party, including Facebook and Twitter.

145 vaccinated, 1,367 samples collected in Ramban

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
RAMBAN: As per District Immunization Officer, Ramban, Dr. Suresh the Health Department on Saturday administered vaccination doses to 145 people including 90 children in the 15-17 year age group, which included 10 in Batote, 40 in Ukhral and 40 in Gool. The enforcement teams also continue the drive to implement Covid protocol across the district Ramban. As per daily bulletin issued by the Chief Medical Officer, Ramban, Dr. Mohammad Fareed Bhat, the Health Department has collected 1367 samples including 485 RT-PCR and 882 RAT.

Inclement weather: DDC Rajouri reviews stock, supply position of ration; other essential commodities

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
RAJOURI: In view of the inclement weather conditions, District Development Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal on Saturday took stock of ration and essential commodities availability in the district here in a meeting of the concerned officers of FCS&CA Department.
Officers who attended the meeting included CPO, Mohammad Khurshid; AD FCS&CA, Arief Lone; TSO Rajouri,

Ashok Kumar and other concerned officers.
The meeting held detailed discussion on a number of issues including stock, supply position, distribution system, grievance redressal system and other related matters.
The AD FCS&CA informed that sufficient stock of wheat, rice, LPG, petrol, diesel and other essential commodities is available in the district and no complaint has been received from the public in this regard.

The meeting was informed that the Ration Cards of all the NFSA and Non-NFSA beneficiaries of the district have been linked with the aadhar.
Reviewing the implementation of electronic public distribution system, it was apprised that 90 percent ration in the district is being distributed among the beneficiaries through electronic distribution system except some far flung areas where the internet connectivity is poor.

Guidelines on Covaxin for under 18 don't mention EUL by WHO: Health Ministry

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
NEW DELHI: The Union Health Ministry on Friday termed as "highly ill-informed" and "misleading" media reports suggesting that approval for the Covaxin vaccine in the 15-18 age group has been given despite the WHO not having accorded Emergency Use Listing (EUL) to its use in this age bracket.
The guidelines issued by the Union Ministry of Health at no place mention about EUL by WHO, it said.
Such reports are highly ill-informed, misleading and far from the truth, it said in a statement.
The guidelines issued by the Ministry on December 27, 2021, under the heading New beneficiaries aged 15-18 years state that "For such beneficiaries, option for vaccination would only be available for Covaxin as this is the only vaccine with EUL for the age-group 15-18", it said in a statement.
The EUL by CDSCO, the national regulator, for Covaxin vaccine for age group 12-18 age group was accorded on December 24, 2021.
Subsequently, the guidelines for vaccination of 15-18 yr age group of young adults and precaution dose for other identified categories was issued by it on December 27, the ministry

added.
Covid surge: Centre tells Delhi, adjoining districts to ramp up health facilities
NEW DELHI: Amid a surge in Covid cases, Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla has asked Delhi and neighbouring districts to immediately strengthen health infrastructure, maintain buffer stocks of essential drugs and ensure that oxygen supply equipment is fully functional.
At a meeting convened to review the COVID-19 situation in the national capital and adjoining districts on Thursday, Bhalla also favoured ramping up of testing in all districts of Delhi-NCR where the number of tests is low.
The home secretary stressed that the health infrastructure in all districts of Delhi-NCR should be immediately strengthened to be able to deal with any enhanced requirement, an official statement said.
Further, it should be ensured that oxygen supply equipment is fully functional and buffer stocks of essential drugs are maintained, he said in the meeting.
The meeting was convened in view of the recent surge in coronavirus cases, especially those of the Omicron variant of the virus, in Delhi-NCR.
Bhalla reviewed the COVID-19 situation and

preparedness in Delhi-NCR, which includes the national capital and nine bordering districts in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana.
Keeping in view the close-knit urban structure of the NCR, he emphasised that it is necessary for all concerned authorities in the region to come together to tackle the virus and have a unified strategy.
Bhalla said due to the high transmissibility of the Omicron variant, no stone should be left unturned to deal with the surge in cases and immediate steps should be taken to further strengthen the monitoring and containment mechanism.
He stressed that state and local administrations should strictly enforce the norms of COVID-19 appropriate behaviour including wearing face masks and maintaining social distancing in all public areas and gatherings.
All measures and mechanisms to contain and curb the spread of the virus must be reinvigorated, he said.
The meeting was attended by V K Paul, Member (Health) Niti Aayog, other senior officers of the central government and chief secretaries and additional chief secretaries of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi, along with officials from the district administrations of NCT of Delhi and neighbouring areas.

■ **AGENCY**
LONDON: The reduced severity of Omicron is good news for now, but it is the result of an "evolutionary mistake" as COVID-19 is transmitting very efficiently and there is no reason for it to become milder; indicating that the next variant could be more virulent, a leading Indian-origin scientist from the University of Cambridge has warned.
Ravindra Gupta, Professor of Clinical Microbiology at the Cambridge Institute for Therapeutic Immunology and Infectious Diseases (CITI-ID), led a recent study on the Omicron variant and was among the first globally to describe the modified fusion mechanism of cells at play which might make Omicron more visible to the body's immune defences.
While the study showed that the new variant, dominant in the UK and now sweeping parts of India, is infecting the cells found in the lungs less, the virus itself is not intending to become milder.
"There is this assumption that viruses become more benign over time but that's not what's happening here because those are long-term evolutionary trends," Prof. Gupta told PTI in an interview on Thursday.
"SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) does not have that issue because it is transmitting very efficiently so it doesn't have

any reason to become milder, especially in the era of vaccination with plenty of susceptible hosts. So that's why I think it's an evolutionary mistake. It's not something intentional that the virus is trying to do to change its biology," he explained.
"This finding of reduced severity with Omicron is obviously good news for now but the next variant that comes, and there will be one, will not necessarily have these characteristics and could go back to the severity that we've seen before.
"And, in fact I think it probably will. Therefore, blocking infection is a potentially desirable thing to do rather than what I've heard, which is people seeing this as a natural vaccine. That is an understandable but dangerous thing to do because we don't understand the complete implications of different variants on our health, he said.
According to the UK-born scientist with familial roots in Uttar Pradesh, who advises the UK government's Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) and New and Emerging Respiratory Virus Threats Advisory Group (NERVTAG), keeping up the vaccination drive is important because that remains "our first line of defence" against the virus.
"Whilst we have a situation of a milder variant, we should

use that as a chance to increase vaccination coverage," he said.
Asked how he sees the Omicron wave impacting India, Prof. Gupta said it was important to learn from other countries' experiences and take pre-emptive action. Also, the types of vaccines used, with fewer RNA vaccines compared to the US and Europe, and genetic differences could play a role in India's experience of the Omicron wave.
Gupta said: "In India, there were a lot of Delta infections so there's some immunity there. The vaccines have been rolled out very nicely. We know that Omicron is able to escape from vaccines and third dose boosting is essential."
"It's not clear in India, where mainly people have had two doses plus an infection, whether this will be adequate. There will be certain people who are vulnerable who get sick and do need ventilation, specially the unvaccinated."
"That's why caution is needed and focus on infection transmission interruption and vaccination are so important."
According to Gupta's study into Omicron, there seems to be a difference between its impact on the deep tissues in the lung and the upper airways or bronchus. This is down to the presence of a particular protein or enzyme which is sitting on the surface of the cells in the lung called TMPRSS2, which prevents the virus from completing an efficient infection.
"So, two pathways are available to the virus and Omicron prefers one pathway rather

than the other and because of that choice, that pathway is more dominant in the upper airways where implications for oxygenation and lung function are milder compared to if things are going on deep into your lungs," he explains.
As the Omicron variant does not engage the TMPRSS2 very efficiently, its ability to cause large fused cells is impaired. This fusion mechanism of making larger cells is a way that the virus can help itself avoid neutralising antibodies and by not being able to fuse, Omicron might make itself more visible to the immune system.
It's a bit unclear. But it's very real and it's very related to what we call a tropism (behavioural) switch. The big question is why the virus is unable to use TMPRSS2. We are still trying to understand this for some reason, Omicron's spike is less well processed or cleaved, said Gupta.
The virus needs to be cleaved, or cut in two, in order for it to perform its functions optimally and Omicron seems to have lost some aspect of its function.
"But if it's replicating in the upper airways, passing very efficiently, it fulfills the goal of transmission much more effectively than if it were infecting deep tissues, which is probably an evolutionary mistake for the virus, added Gupta.
As a result, his team's focus now is on further studying why this evolutionary mistake occurred and to understand the biology of the virus better to help with more effective and efficient future courses of

drugs and vaccines.
According to the COVID-19 Weekly Epidemiological Update, released by the global health agency on Thursday, a record 9.5 million new COVID-19 cases were reported around the world during the week December 27-January 2.
The update said that during the week December 27, 2021 to January 2, 2022, following a gradual increase since October, the global number of new cases increased sharply by 71 per cent as compared to the previous week.
WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus cautioned that while the Omicron variant appears to be less severe compared to Delta, especially in those vaccinated, it does not mean it should be categorised as mild'.
Just like previous variants; Omicron is hospitalising people and it is killing people, he said in Geneva at a press briefing.
"In fact, the tsunami of cases is so huge and quick, that it is overwhelming health systems around the world," Tedros said.
Hospitals are becoming overcrowded and understaffed, which further results in preventable deaths from not only COVID-19 but other diseases and injuries where patients cannot receive timely care, he said.
Since the Coronavirus was first reported in central China's Wuhan city, the deadly disease has infected over 300,173,00 people globally and caused more than 5,472,000 deaths.

Strict implementation of public health & social distancing measures must to arrest COVID-19 surge: WHO

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
NEW DELHI: The World Health Organization on Saturday called for strict implementation of public health and social measures as COVID-19 cases surge in most countries of the South-East Asia Region.
It also said though the Omicron variant of coronavirus may appear to be less severe, it should not be dismissed as mild'.
All preventive and protective measures must be imple-

mented with full earnestness by one and all, Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh, Regional Director, WHO South-East Asia Region, said.
"Authorities must implement situation-specific measures to arrest the further spread of the virus. People must adhere to these measures. Masks, hand hygiene, cough etiquette, ventilation, and physical distancing is an absolute must, she said in a statement.
Singh said Omicron variant

should not be dismissed as mild'.
Emerging as the most predominant variant, this highly infectious variant is already overwhelming health systems around the world. Globally we are seeing hospitalisation and deaths from Omicron, she added.
We must also not forget that not every COVID-19 case is an Omicron infection. Other variants, including Delta, are also circulating, which, as we know, cause

severe infections and deaths, the WHO regional director said.
She added that each positive case of COVID-19 should hence be a cause of concern.
We are aware that COVID-19 virus spreads mainly between people who are in close contact with each other, for example at a conversational distance. The virus can also spread in poorly ventilated indoor settings or crowded settings, Singh said.

Often, people who are infectious do not always have symptoms or know that they are carrying the virus, so it is important to ensure good ventilation by opening windows and doors, if possible when sharing an indoor space with other people, she added.
Singh said it is extremely important for people to wear well-fitting masks and avoid the crowds and big gatherings, along with taking other measures.

Artificial Limb Measurement Camp conducted

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
LAM: Army conducted Artificial Limb Measurement Camp at Lam in District Rajouri (J&K). This camp was a precursor to the Republic Day celebrations planned to be held with locals. The camp conducted for specially abled people of border villages of Rajouri dis-

trict was held in collaboration with a Delhi based NGO, Kiwani Group. The camp facilitated preparations for meeting specific limb requirements of 25 specially abled locals who over the years have lost their limbs to cease fire violations, terrorist actions, mine blasts amongst other unfortunate incidents. A

team of doctors first examined the patient and thereafter took measurements for the required artificial limb or prosthesis, being provided free of cost to them subsequently. Joint efforts of Indian Army and Kiwani Group were highly appreciated by the attendees and other locals present at the event.

