

CREMATION

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the demise of our beloved

SH DEVINDER SINGH JAMWAL
(Chairman Bhagwati Haqiqat Memorial Public High School)
S/o Late Jasjit Singh Jamwal
R/o Pilli Kothi Barnai

CREMATION will be on 23 March at 10:00 am at Dream City Shamshan Ghat Muthi

GRIEF STRICKEN
Smt Usha Jamwal-Wife
Brothers & Bhabhi
Smt & Sh Bhupinder Singh Jamwal and Neelam Smt & Sh Narinder Singh Jamwal and promila
Sisters & Brother-in-law
Anuradha & Sh Kamal Nain Singh
Anju & Lt. Sh Narinder Singh
Son & Daughter-in-law
Bhanupartap Singh and Rekha Jamwal
Daughter & son in law
Madhvi and Pardeep Charak
Grand Sons & Grand Daughter
Medansh and Manya
Yashvardhan and lakshdhan
Vihang

Contact: (M) 9018967682



Sh. Devinder Singh Jamwal (Chairman Bhagwati Haqiqat Memorial Public High School)

UTHALA



SMT. NEELAM AGGARWAL

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW, WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED

SMT. NEELAM AGGARWAL W/O LT. SH. VIJAY KUMAR AGGARWAL R/O H. NO. 1 MUBARAK MANDI DARBAR GARH ROAD JAMMU WHO HAD LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ADOBE ON 20/03/2024

UTHALA WILL BE HELD ON 23/03/2024 (SATURDAY) MUBARAK MANDI BANBARI DAS MANDIR (OPPOSITE TO HOME) JAMMU AT 3:00 PM TO 4:00 PM.

BHOG AND ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad and peaceful demise of our beloved **S. Jeet Singh** (Retd. Medical Department) R/o Mohalla Radio Station Poonch At present: Upper Gadigarh Near Tube Well Jammu who left for his heavenly abode on 18th March 2024.

Bhog and Antim Ardas shall be performed as per the following scheduled programme:-

Aramb Shri Akhand Path Sahib at our residence Upper Gadigarh Jammu on Saturday (23-03-2024) at 09:00 AM.

Bhog Shri Akhand Path Sahib at our residence on Monday (25-03-2024) at 09:00 AM

Kirtan and Antim Ardaas at Singh Sabha Gurudwara Sahib Mahant Bachtar Singh Nagar Upper Gadigarh on Monday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon followed by Guru Ka Langar

DEEPLY MOURNED BY FAMILY AND RELATIVES:-

Harjeet Kour (Wife)
Gagandeep Singh (Son) Information Department
Manpreet Kour (Daughter-in-Law)
Bavneet Kour (Daughter)
Gursimran Singh (Son-in-Law)

Brothers
Amrik Singh (Retd. SP)
Jasbir Singh (Retd. J.E.)
Ranbir Singh

Brother-in-Laws
Prithpal Singh (Retd. Lecturer)
Jagjit Singh (Inspector)
Paramjit Singh (Professor)

Great Grand Childrens
EMRIN KOUR
SEHAR KOUR

Contact:- 7006175617



S. Jeet Singh (Retd. Medical Department)

Ex-PepsiCo CEO Indra Nooyi advises Indian students in US to be 'watchful' amid a string of tragedies

■ AGENCY

New York: New York, Mar 22 (PTI) Amid a string of tragic and concerning incidents involving Indian students in the US, former CEO of PepsiCo Indra Nooyi has advised them to be "watchful", respect local laws and urged them to not engage in drugs or excessive drinking to ensure their safety and security in this country.

Nooyi, considered among the most powerful and influential business executives globally, issued an over 10-minute long video advising Indian students coming to the US to stay safe and alert and to avoid activities that can land them in trouble. The video was posted on X by the Consulate General of India in New York on Thursday.

"The reason I'm recording this video is to talk to all of you, all you young people who are looking to come to the United States or are here already pursuing your studies, because I've been reading and listening to all the news about several examples of Indian students finding themselves in unfortunate situations," Nooyi, 68, said in the video. "It's up to you to make sure you do what it takes to remain safe...stay within the law, do not venture out into dark places alone at night, do not engage in drugs or excessive drinking please. All of these are just formulae for disaster," she said. Nooyi pleaded with the students coming to the US to "choose your university and course carefully". She added that coming to the US to pursue higher

education can be a "cultural sea change" for many because they are away from the comforts of their families, communities and ecosystems.

"So when you come to the United States, be very watchful in the initial months of your landing here, in terms of who you select as friends, the new habits you develop and how you cope with cultural changes because it's very easy to get caught up with all the freedoms you have and think that you should experiment with everything. Be very, very careful." She noted that while Indian students are known for their hard work and success, there are also incidents of some youngsters experimenting with and eventually getting addicted to drugs such as Fentanyl.

"This is lethal. Let me repeat, this is lethal," she said, adding that these are extremely harmful drugs impacting mental and physical health and will "definitely be detrimental to your career prospects here".

"Please do not verge into this whole area of experimenting with dangerous stuff. Most importantly, do not partake in unlawful activities, understand the law and stay within the law," she said.

Nooyi added that many international students are not familiar with the laws and regulations of the host country. "It is important to know the consequences of your actions and hence you have to stay alert all the time," she said.

"You need to know your visa status and its permis-

sibility towards part-time employment. Do not violate the law," she said, adding that the students must know the "boundaries of what you can do as a foreign student in the United States".

Nooyi also urged students to be aware of the "safe areas" in the city in which they are residing or travelling. "Please avoid shady neighbourhoods. Do not venture out late into the night alone or do not venture out very late in the night at all," she said, advising the students to go out in groups and with friends.

Nooyi's message comes amid a string of troubling cases pertaining to the safety and security of Indian students in the US. Since the beginning of this year, several cases of deaths among Indian and Indian-origin students have caused alarm and concern among the community.

This week, the Consulate said it is working with local law enforcement authorities to locate 25-year-old Indian student Mohammad Abdul Arfath, who has been missing since the beginning of this month, in Cleveland.

Indian-American Sameer Kamath, 23, a student at Purdue University who was found dead in a nature preserve in Indiana in February, died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head, according to authorities. In January, 18-year-old Akul Dhawan, a University of Illinois student, was found unresponsive outside a campus building. Investigations revealed

that he died due to hypothermia, with authorities ruling that acute alcohol intoxication and prolonged exposure to extremely cold temperatures significantly contributed to his death. In another tragedy that month, 25-year-old Indian student Vivek Saini was hammered to death by a homeless drug addict in Georgia.

Nooyi underscored that the US offers phenomenal educational opportunities, and is multicultural and welcoming. She, however, added that studying in the US is "not at all cheap, it's very expensive and would not necessarily secure a job for you here today".

"It is not guaranteed. Nor should it be your objective in this globalised world, where India itself is offering huge numbers of opportunities for educated people," she said.

Nooyi urged the students to be "very aware" of the resources available to them in their universities and local communities, "strongly" suggesting that students engage with the university support system, the local Indian consulates and local Indian Americans to learn from their experiences and seek their support when needed.

She also appealed to the students to beware of scams, including on social media, that may dupe them of their money and resources. She stressed the need for students to take care of their mental health and well being, stay connected with friends, families and support groups. PTI.

Bhutanese youngsters perform on Garba song written by PM Modi to welcome him

■ AGENCY

THIMPHU: A group of Bhutanese youngsters dressed in traditional Indian attire performed on a Garba song written by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to welcome him to their country on Friday.

Earlier in the day, Modi arrived in Bhutan on a two-day State visit to further cement India's unique relations with the Himalayan nation as part of the country's 'Neighbourhood First' Policy.

During his visit, a special welcome was given to Modi as a group of youngsters from Bhutan performed the Garba on a song written by him recently, officials said.

Modi watched them perform with rapt attention and applauded at the end of the performance.

The Prime Minister was accorded a red-carpet welcome upon his arrival at the Paro airport. He was warmly received by Tshering Tobgay, Prime Minister of Bhutan, at Paro airport and accorded a ceremonial welcome.

Modi received a warm welcome, with the Bhutanese people lining the entire 45-kilometre route from Paro International Airport to

Thimphu which was also decked up with Indian and Bhutanese flags.

"The Bhutanese prime minister wrote on X in Hindi: 'Bhutan mein apka swagat hai mere bade bhai @narendramodi Ji.'" Earlier, Modi posted on X about his visit to Bhutan. Huge banners have been put up in the capital city to welcome the Indian prime minister. The visit will provide an opportunity for both sides to "exchange views on bilateral and regional matters of interest and deliberate on ways to expand and intensify our exemplary partnership for the benefit of our peoples", the Ministry of External Affairs said in a statement earlier this week. India and Bhutan share "a unique and enduring partnership which is rooted in mutual trust, understanding and goodwill", the statement emphasised.

Diplomatic relations between India and Bhutan were established in 1968. The basic framework of India-Bhutan relations has been the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation signed in 1949 between the two countries, which was revised in February 2007. PTI.

Kejriwal's arrest shows ruling party's 'remarkable degree of nervousness': Omar Abdullah

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah on Friday said the arrest of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal was a "blot" on democracy, and shows the ruling party's "remarkable degree of nervousness".

The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister said his party stands with Kejriwal and his Aam Aadmi Party.

"Aisi Taisi Democracy. For all the talk of 400+ seats, the ruling dispensation is displaying a remarkable degree of nervousness. Having a sitting opposition CM arrested by a pliable central agency within days of the general elections being announced is a blot on democracy," Abdullah said in a post on X.

Kejriwal, who is also the national convenor and chief of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), was arrested on Thursday night by the Enforcement Directorate in a money laundering case linked to alleged irregularities in the scrapped Delhi excise policy 2021-22.

AAP workers detained in Srinagar during protest against Kejriwal's arrest

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Few AAP workers were detained here on Friday as they tried to take out a protest march against the arrest of their party's national convenor and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, officials said.

Scores of AAP workers assembled near the Press Enclave here to protest against Kejriwal's arrest by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in New Delhi on Thursday night, they said.

As soon as the party members tried to take out the march, police swung

into action and dispersed them, the officials said. A few of the protestors were detained by the police, they added. Speaking to reporters, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Nawab Nasir said Kejriwal's arrest was against the democratic norms.

"This is a fight for democracy and we will ultimately win this," he said. Nasir added that Kejriwal is an ideology which cannot be arrested.

"We want to tell (Prime Minister Narendra) Modi that his dictatorship will not work.

Kejriwal is an idea, an ideology. You can arrest him but you cannot arrest his ideas," the AAP leader said before being whisked by police. PTI.

Ram Mandir Rath Yatra to travel 8,000 miles, visit 851 temples in 48 US states

■ AGENCY

WASHINGTON: The Ram Mandir Rath Yatra will kick off from US state Chicago on Monday to travel to 851 temples in 48 states, crossing more than 8,000 miles over the next 60 days, organisers said on Thursday.

The rath or chariot built over a Toyota Sienna van will carry statues of Lord Ram, Goddess Sita, Lakshman, and Hanuman, along with special prasadam from the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya and kalash of Prana Pratishtha Pujit Akshat, according to Amitabh Mittal, general secretary of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad of America (VHPA), which is organising the yatra.

"The Ram Mandir opening has filled with joy the hearts of over 1.5 billion Hindus

around the world and has resulted in a renewed energy and faith. The nationwide Rath Yatra will start on March 25 from Chicago in the USA and travel for over 8000 miles. It will cover 851 temples in the USA and around 150 temples in Canada," Mittal told PTI.

The Canada section of the Ratha Yatra - separate one - is being organised by the Vishwa Hindu Parishad of Canada. It will travel to more than 150 temples in Canada.

"The objective of this Rath Yatra is to raise awareness, educate and empower Hindu Dharma," said Tejal Shah of the Hindu Mandir Empowerment Council (HMEC), which is the apex body for all the temples in the United States.

The yatra will provide the opportunity to all Hindus to

unite and participate, which will lead to revival of Hindu ethos and Dharma, she said.

"It is very important for us and especially for our future generation to stay united and strong in the campaign to raise awareness and spread the Hindu Dharma across the world," Shah said.

According to Mittal, several dozen volunteers have registered with the VHPA to help plan and organise this yatra.

This is for the first time in the US that a yatra of this kind has been organised by the Hindu community that would take the van to more than 800 temples in the US. The yatra will culminate on April 23, the auspicious day of Shree Hanuman Jayanti, at Sugar Grove, Illinois. The Rath Yatra would cover not only all the major temples but also even smaller ones.

"We are going to visit every mandir in the USA as long as they have a physical space," Shah said. The temples which participated in the Ram Mandir inauguration ceremonies in the US in January would also be presented with a certificate of participation.

"We are making sure that we cover everyone who has participated, we appreciate their participation, and this is kind of a gratitude for them.

And they also feel blessed to have the Ram Lala's pratikurti that we are going to carry in the Rath that we have received from Bharat. We also have akshat and kalash, which has a lot of significance in our culture," Tejal Shah said. PTI.

Awareness programme on SVEEP held across Samba

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: As per the directions of Chief Electoral Officer J&K and District Election Officer Samba, a day-long awareness campaign was held in the district for the awareness of voters under SVEEP 4 programme, an initiative of ECI for stronger democracy with greater participation of the electors.

Various ELCs, VAFs, Anganwadi Workers, officials from Revenue, Rural Development and Education department were mobilised along with local BLOs to sensitise all sections of society.

DNO SVEEP made a synchronous strategy along with AROs of all three ACs which resulted in mass mobilisation and identification of target areas where voter turnout was comparatively less. Special focus was made for the youth, women, old age voters and tribals.

Such activities will continue on a day to day basis till the poll day so that maximum participation is ensured and electors are facilitated and encouraged for strengthening the democratic process.

Training programme on Juvenile Justice commences at SKPA

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Three Days course on "Juvenile Justice (Child Care & Protections)" commenced on Friday at SKPA Udhampur. Eighteen (18) Police officers of the rank of Sub-Inspector to Inspector participate in the said training Course. The course on Juvenile Justice is designed to sensitize the Police Officers regarding the various legal provisions of protection, care and rights of the children.

The course was formally inaugurated by Rajinder Kumar Gupta, IPS, SSP, Dy. Director (Indoor) SKPA Udhampur.

Gupta in his inaugural address, briefed the participating officers about the basic concepts of the course and existing legal provision on the subject.

In his inaugural address Rajinder Kumar Gupta, IPS, SSP, has laid stress on the emerging challenging in the field of Juvenile Crimes.

He also laid emphasis on the adoption of the innovative methods to curbe the menace.

The course is being coordinated by Sukhvir Singh, DySPASstt. Director (Admn) assisted by ASI Ashok Kumar, member faculty.

GDC Kathua felicitates NCC cadets for stellar performance at Republic Day Camp

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: In a proud moment for Government Degree College Kathua, nine NCC cadets who represented the institution with distinction at the prestigious Republic Day Camp 2024 were honoured today for their commendable achievements.

Prof. Seema Mir, esteemed Principal of the college felicitated the NCC cadets at a ceremony held

in college campus. On this occasion, she said we are immensely proud of our NCC cadets for their exceptional performance and unwavering dedication who have brought laurels not only to the college but also to the entire region. She also stated at Government Degree College Kathua, we believe in nurturing not just academic excellence but also leadership qualities and a spirit of service.

CS reviews functioning of FCS&CA Dept

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, on Friday had a detailed review of working of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) department here.

Apart from Commissioner Secretary, FCS&CA, Zubair Ahmad, the meeting was attended by Director Food Supplies Jammu/Kashmir and other concerned officers of the department.

During the meeting, the Chief Secretary held a detailed review of various

aspects of functioning of the department having the mandate of distribution of food grains and other essential supplies.

Dulloo also took note of saturation of Aadhar seeding of ration cards and coverage of UT population under NFSA, Non-NFSA and PMFSS schemes.

He took notice of the areas not having online POS facility available and reach of Aadhar/OTP authenticated transactions, e-KYC and route optimization status.

The achievements of our NCC cadets at the Republic Day Camp are a testament to this ethos.

It is pertinent to mention that the NCC cadets of GDC Kathua participated in various competitions in RDC and gave their excellent performance. Cadet Anshu Rani of 2 J&K Girls Bn marched on Kartavya. Sgt Mohit Kumar of 4 J&K Bn participated in RDC Cultural programme. JUO Rajat Singh, of 4 J&K Bn participated in All India Guard of Honour, Cadet Suneel Kumar, Cadet Sumit Kumar, Cadet Sunil Kumar, Cadet Sourav Singh, Cadet Lalit Sharma

of 4 J&K Bn and Sidhantsharma of 1 J&K Naval Bn, Srinagarmarched in PM Rally.

The principal congratulated the NCC Officers Lt (Dr) Daya Ram for his hard work and dedication due to which NCC cadets registered such big achievements at National Level. The senior faculty members, Prof. Sanjay Karlupia, Prof. Rupinder Kour, Dr. Yash Paul Sharma, Dr. Dinesh J a s r o t i a , Prof. Shivani Kotwal, Dr. Rajesh K. Manhas also graced the occasion with their presence.

DEO inspects polling stations, strong rooms across Jammu, assesses facilities

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: District Election Officer, Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya on Friday conducted an extensive tour of Bishnah, R.S Pura and Marh regions, including border areas of Suchetgarh and Chakroi to assess facilities of polling stations.

During the visit, the

DEO checked polling stations and strong rooms at Marh, SKUAST and Bishnah, assessing their facilities.

He instructed officers to ensure station cleanliness and readiness before the poll date and emphasised on the importance of arrangements for elderly and specially abled voters.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO PAY STATE TIMES

BHIM UPI
BHARAT INTERFACE FOR MONEY UNIFIED PAYMENTS INTERFACE

PAY THROUGH
BHIM-UPI/Paytm-UPI or any other UPI app

SMVDU students participate at Startup Mahakumbh-2024

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: SMVDU and JKEDI organized a three-day visit of students to participate in the Startup Mahakumbhat iconic Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi from March 18-20, 2024

In its first-of-its-kind event bringing together the entire startup ecosystem of India including startups, investors, incubators and accelerators, and industry leaders from several sectors fifteen students along with Ph.D. scholar Manish Kumar of School of Business interacted with leading innovators, of the country. The mega event is a collaborative effort of ASSOCHAM, NASSCOM, Bootstrap Incubation & Advisory Foundation, TiE and Indian Venture and Alternate Capital Association (IVCA).

The Startup Mahakumbhboasts a turnout of over 2,000 startups, 1,000 investors, 100 unicorns, 300 incubators and accelerators, along with

3,000 delegates, 3,000 prospective entrepreneurs, and more than 50,000 business visitors nationwide. Students from Computer Science, Electronics and Communication Engineering and School of Business had the opportunity to showcase their ideas to the prominent investors, innovators, and entrepreneurs. The five startups from Jammu and Kashmir including SMVDU-TBIC graduated incubates Nentoir Technologies and Branding Elvesseid the spotlight on the grand occasion. On the concluding day, Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi visited the venue and addressed the audience.

The visit was an outcome of the collaborative efforts of SMVDU TBIC and Director JKEDI, Rajinder Kumar Sharma (JKAS).

Prof. Pragati Kumar, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University congratulated the participating students.