

Super Moms honoured, mother's lap no less than heaven



Glimpses of felicitation function in honour of mothers at Lemon Tree Hotel in Jammu on Sunday.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: There is no sorrow in life when mother is around, the world may or may not support but mother's love never decreases.

In a programme organized on Sunday by the JD Events and Production House, at Lemon Tree Hotel in Jammu, some super moms, who have achieved success in their respective fields, were honoured.

Dr. Ashu Sharma, Ritika Salathia, Kiran Sharma, Sushma Rajput, Ridhima Talwar, Nidhi Abrol and Advocate Tania Sharma, among 15 super moms, were present and honoured.

Shiv Sena (UBT) State chief Manish Sahni and the STATE TIMES Editor-in-Chief Raj Daluja were present as Chief Guests in the programme and honoured the super moms by presenting

them mementoes. Manish Sahni said that Maa, Maiya, Mummy, Mata, Mai, Ammi, Mom and many more synonyms are there for mother, but affection is the same in all of them, mother is a form

of God. The programme started with the children's solo dance and Rudra's beat boxing, which captivated the audience. Host Muskan Pandoh kept the audience engaged

till the end of the programme in her usual style. On the occasion, Sunal Kankar, Irfan Chaudhary, Dr. Tarun Sharma, Rohit Mattoo, Dr. Sunil Rajput, Rahul Rahi, Nitin, Tripti Shastri, Vikas Bakshi and

Meenakshi Chhibber were present as special guests. General Zorawar Singh's great-granddaughter Riya and Diksha Kaluria, who were present with their parents, were specially honoured.

Cheetahs receive special ointment treatment to prevent deadly infection

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SHEOPUR (MP): In an effort to protect the cheetah population at Kuno National Park (KNP) in Madhya Pradesh, a new initiative has been launched to apply foreign ointment to their fur, an official said. This measure aims to prevent a recurrence of septicemia, a deadly bacterial infection that claimed the lives of three cheetahs last year. The cursorial predators at the Kuno National Park, brought to India as part of a translocation project from South Africa and Namibia, are receiving Anti Ecto Parasite Medicine to combat the threat of septicemia. The ointment, imported from South Africa, is being applied to all 13 adult cheetahs in the park to ensure their well-being during the rainy season. "We have started applying the 'Anti Ecto Parasite Medicine' (anti maggot) imported from South Africa to the cheetahs by immobilising them with the onset of the rainy season," KNP director Uttam Sharma told PTI over phone on Sunday.

Despite facing setbacks in the past year, Kuno National Park remains committed to the conservation and preservation of cheetahs in India. The loss of three cheetahs to septicemia underscored the need for proactive measures to safeguard the remaining population. "We are going to apply this medicine to the bodies of all 13 adult cheetahs in the KNP, spread over an area of 1,235 sq km including buffer zone in Sheopur district," he said, adding "the effect of the ointment lasts for three to four months". However, he did not share details of the immunisation plan duration and the date it started but confirmed that the KNP lost three cheetahs to septicemia, caused by blood poisoning due to bacterial infection, last year. As the monsoon season progresses, efforts to protect the cheetahs from environmental risks

are paramount. The collaboration between wildlife experts, park officials, and meteorologists aims to ensure the well-being of the cheetahs amidst changing weather conditions. Despite facing challenges in tranquilising the swift creatures for treatment, the dedicated team at KNP is determined to carry out the immunisation process efficiently. The history-making reintroduction of cheetahs in India aims to revive the species, which was declared extinct in the country back in 1952. The last in the cat family had died in Koriya district of present-day Chhattisgarh, once part of MP, in 1947. Last year's unfortunate incident of cheetah deaths due to septicemia underscored the importance of taking proactive measures to safeguard these magnificent animals. KNP outright denied that the radio collar caused the septicemia the last time around. "It was not the cause of the outbreak. It might have aggravated it," KNP director Sharma said. "Last year, initially many experts doubted the radio collars caused the infection. But later the air was cleared," he said. The fur of African cheetahs grows in June, July- August which is winter in the southern hemisphere. These months are hot, humid and rainy here in the northern hemisphere, the official said. "So, the hostile weather plus rain caused dampness in the thick fur of the cheetahs. They rubbed their bodies for relief and in the process wounded themselves last year," he added. "No sooner, the blood oozes from the wound, the flies come in the picture and lay eggs in them and then come maggots which killed cheetahs in 48 hours last year," the official recalled. Eight Namibian cheetahs - five female and three male - were released into quarantine enclosures at KNP on September 17, 2022, at a high-profile event in which Prime

Minister Narendra Modi was the chief guest. With the monsoon season already underway in Madhya Pradesh, the authorities are leaving no stone unturned to protect the cheetah population from potential health risks. Sheopur has received 78.4 mm of rain against the normal rainfall of 77.6 mm between June 1 and June 30 morning, as per the India Meteorological Department Bhopal centre's forecast in-charge Divya Surendran. She said the rain-bearing system, which hit the state on June 21, has covered the entire Madhya Pradesh by June 28. With the ongoing advancements in conservation practices, KNP is determined to secure a future for cheetahs in India. By addressing health concerns and implementing strategic interventions, the park strives to create a safe habitat for these iconic predators. The translocation project, which brought cheetahs from across continents to India, represents a significant step towards reviving the cheetah population in the country. As efforts continue to protect and support these majestic animals, KNP remains at the forefront of conservation initiatives aimed at preserving biodiversity and wildlife heritage, Sharma said.

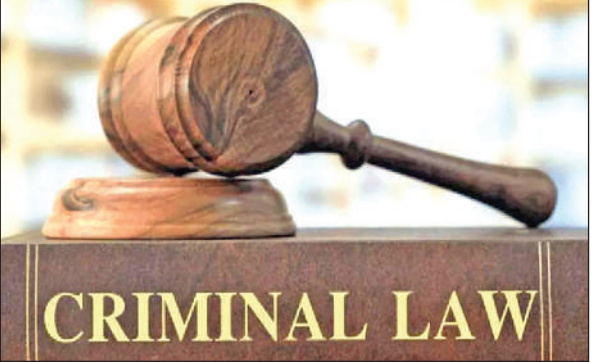
■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
NEW DELHI: Three new criminal laws will come into effect across the country from Monday, bringing widespread changes in India's criminal justice system and ending colonial-era laws. The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam will replace the British-era Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Evidence Act, respectively. The new laws will bring in a modern justice system, incorporating provisions such as Zero FIR, online registration of police complaints, summonses through electronic modes such as SMS and mandatory videography of crime scenes for all heinous crimes. They have tried to address some of the current social realities and crimes and provide a mechanism to effectively deal with these, keeping in view the ideals enshrined in the Constitution, official sources said. Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who piloted the laws, said the new laws would give priority to providing justice, unlike the British-era laws that gave primacy to penal action. "These laws are made by Indians, for Indians and by an Indian Parliament and marks the end of colonial criminal justice laws," he said. Shah said the laws were not just about changing the nomenclature but bringing about a complete overhaul. "Soul, body and spirit" of the new laws is Indian, he said. Justice is an umbrella term that encompasses both the victim and the culprit, the home minister said

and added these new laws would ensure political, economic and social justice with an Indian ethos. According to the new laws, judgment in criminal cases has to come within 45 days of completion of trial and charges must be framed within 60 days of first hearing. Statement of rape victims will be recorded by a female police officer in presence of her guardian or relative and medical reports have to come within seven days. Organised crimes and acts of terrorism have been defined, sedition has been replaced with treason and video recording of all search and seizure have been made mandatory. A new chapter on crimes against women and children have been added, buying and selling of any child has been made a heinous crime and there is a provision for death sentence or life imprisonment for gang rape of a minor. The offences against women and children, murder and offences against the State have been given precedence in the new law. Overlapping sections have been merged and simplified and will consist of only 358 sections against 511 in the Indian Penal Code, the sources said. For example, definitions scattered from sections 6 to 52 have been brought under one section. Eighteen sections already stand repealed and four relating to weights and measures are covered under the Legal Metrology Act, 2009. Instances of false promise of marriage, gang rape of minors, mob lynching, chain snatching, etc are reported but the current Indian Penal Code did not have specific provisions for dealing with

such incidents. These have been addressed in the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, the sources said. A new provision has been made for cases such as abandonment of women after making sexual relations on the false promise of marriage. The three laws were based on justice, transparency and fairness, the sources said. Under the new laws, a person can now report incidents by electronic communication, without the need to physically visit a police station. This allows for easier and quicker reporting, facilitating prompt action by the police. With the introduction of Zero FIR, a person can file a First Information Report (FIR) at any police station, regardless of jurisdiction. This eliminates delays in initiating legal proceedings and ensures immediate reporting of the offence. An interesting addition of the law is that in the event of an arrest, the individual has the right to inform a person of his choice about his or her situation. This will ensure immediate sup-

port and assistance to the arrested individual. Besides, arrest details will now be prominently displayed within police stations and district headquarters, allowing families and friends of the arrested person easy access to important information. To strengthen cases and investigations, it has become mandatory for forensic experts to visit crime scenes for serious offences and collect evidence. Under the new laws, victims of crime against women are entitled to regular updates on the progress of their case within 90 days. This provision keeps victims informed and involved in the legal process, enhancing transparency and trust. The new laws guarantee free first-aid or medical treatment to victims of crimes against women and children at all hospitals. This provision ensures immediate access to essential medical care, prioritising the wellbeing and recovery of victims during challenging times. Summonses can now be served electronically, expediting legal processes, reducing paperwork and ensuring efficient communication among all parties involved. For certain offences against woman, statements of the victim are to be recorded, as far as practicable, by a woman magistrate and, in her absence, by a male magistrate in the presence of a woman to ensure sensitivity and fairness, creating a supportive environment for victims. Both the accused and the victim are entitled to receive copies of the FIR, police report, charge sheet, statements, confessions, and other documents within 14 days. Courts grant a maximum of two adjournments to avoid unnecessary delays in case hearings, ensuring timely justice delivery. The new laws mandate all state governments to implement witness protection schemes to ensure the safety and cooperation of witnesses, enhancing the credibility and effectiveness of legal proceedings. The definition of "gender" now includes transgender individuals, promoting inclusivity and equality. By conducting all legal proceedings electronically, the new laws offer convenience to victims, witnesses and accused, thereby streamlining and expediting the entire legal process. To provide more protection to the victim and enforce transparency in investigation related to an offence of rape, the statement of the victim shall be recorded through audio-video means. Women, persons below 15 years, persons above 60 years and those with disabilities or acute illnesses are exempt from attending police stations and can receive police assistance at their place of residence.

Curtain falls on British-era laws, new criminal laws come into effect on July 1



From being farmer's son to Vice Prez, Venkaiah Naidu's journey inspiring: PM Modi

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
HYDERABAD: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday released three books on the life of M Venkaiah Naidu and recalled his contributions, including the fight against imposition of Emergency and as Union Minister and Vice President. Recalling that the 50th anniversary of Emergency was observed recently, he said Naidu was even in jail for about 17 months during the fight against Emergency. The Emergency was imposed by the Congress by tarnishing the image of the country's

Constitution, he said. The books, including a biography, were released on the eve of Naidu's 75th birthday. Expressing happiness over releasing the biography and two other books, Modi exuded confidence that the books would inspire people and show the right direction for national service. The journey of Naidu, from being a farmer's son to occupying high-ranking positions as Union Minister and Vice President, is filled with many experiences, he said. Naidu chose to take up the Rural Development ministry in

the cabinet of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, despite being a senior in the party, as he wanted to serve the villages, farmers and the poor, he said. During Naidu's tenure as Urban Development Minister as his senior cabinet colleague, several initiatives, including Swachh Bharat Mission and Smart Cities Mission, were started, Modi said. Praising Naidu's oratory, wit, fitness, alertness and spontaneity, he recalled the latter's comment of 'ek hath me BJP ka jhanda aur doosre hath me NDA ka agenda' (BJP's flag in

one hand and NDA's agenda in another hand) during the Vajpayee regime. During Naidu's tenure as Chairman of Rajya Sabha, the bill to abolish Article 370 was passed with majesty, dignity and honour though the government did not have majority in the upper house, he said. 'BJP grew as a 'vatvriksh' (banyan tree) that it is today, due to the efforts of lakhs of activists like Naidu, he said. He hoped that the country would emerge as a developed nation in 2047 when Naidu celebrates his 100th birthday. In his response, Naidu

thanked the Prime Minister for releasing the books. Appreciating Modi's endeavour for the country's development, he said skill development is the need of the hour. "Development and welfare must go hand in hand. We should not be tempted by these freebies and then make the people lazy. Yes, we must give them a helping hand. You have been giving free ration to crores of people across the country. That should continue as long as it is required. But, at the same time, skill development is the need of the hour," the former Vice President

said. Naidu also favoured promoting Indian languages. The books released by the PM include biography of the former Vice President titled "Venkaiah Naidu - Life in Service," "Celebrating Bharat - The Mission and Message of Shri M Venkaiah Naidu as 13th Vice-President of India", a photo chronicle and a pictorial biography in Telugu titled "Mahaneta - Life and Journey of Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu." Venkaiah Naidu, several other leaders and prominent personalities attended the event in Hyderabad.