



A scene from English play *The Diary of Anne Frank* staged by Nepal's One World Theatre, at Abhinav Theatre on Monday.

Nepal's One World Theatre stages stirring presentation of *The Diary of Anne Frank*

Lalit Gupta
JAMMU, Mar 26: The shining spirit of a Jew teenager Anne Frank, immortalized through her diary which she wrote during the period of hiding from the Nazis during World War II, has been a source of inspiration to a number of theatre professionals across the globe to stage plays based on her life.

Thanks to Nepal's One World Theatre, the iconic play in English, 'The Diary of Anne Frank', was staged on the fifth day of ongoing Jammu Chapter of 8th Theatre Olympiad being organized by National School of Drama, in collaboration with J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages, at the Abhinav Theatre, here today.

Written by playwrights Albert Hackett & Frances Goodrich and directed by Deborah Merola, the play narrates the story of a young girl Anne Frank who went into hiding with her family, another Jewish family and an acquaintance during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands.

It is account of the people living in hiding, their psychological state, their challenges and a hope to come out from hiding and live their life. The characters on stage reflect their struggle to live life despite the fear and challenges. The well

thought stage design was able to depict the hiding place with all its campiness wherein the inmates live an existence of growing tension and hostility – and occasional bursts of joy, with little to eat or drink. Constant reminder of the Nazi occupation is the large print in which the Nazi sign dominates the Stars of David.

The background sounds of phone ringing, dogs barking, gun shots, while accentuating the lurking presence of the outside hostile world also add to the emotional power of the scenes. Rojita Buddhacharya was remarkable for portrayal of a bubbly 13-year-old Anne. Rose Schwietz as Mrs. Frank left her mark as the one who can keep her emotions in check, but shows her capacity to explode when the situation demands. Loomibha Tuladhar as Mrs Van Daan was appealing. Sajag Rana as Mr Dussel, moving here and there to find a space for him and being ignored by others was quite funny. Rajkuamr Pudasaini did a great role as a responsible father who is concerned to keep his family safe. Other actors who also gave impressive performances included Amrit Dahal as young Peter Vann Daan, Himanshu Goyal as Mr Kraler, Gopal Aryal as Mr Van Daan and Alize Biannic as Margot Frank.

Tomorrow, the Hindustani play Barff, directed by Saurabh Shukla will be staged by AGP World Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai.

3 youth missing in Pulwama
Excelsior Correspondent
SRINAGAR, Mar 26: Three youth from Pulwama district of South Kashmir, one of them a student of post graduate department of Kashmir University, are missing for last one week.

Tawseef Ahmad Dar son of Abdul Rashid Dar, Adil Ahmad Bhat son of Ghulam Hassan Bhat, and Sameer Ahmad Bhat (MSc Geology student) son of Mohammad Subhan Bhat, all residents of Gandibagh Kakpora are missing since March 19.

Families of the trio approached the Police Station Kakpora on Sunday and filed the missing report. "We have registered a case and started investigations into it," Police said.

Young girl missing
Excelsior Correspondent
JAMMU, Mar 26: A young girl has been missing since March 23 from her workplace in Sainik Colony.

According to the missing report lodged in police post Sainik Colony, the girl identified as Vishali (18) daughter of Babu Ram, resident of tehsil Salal, district Reasi, who was working as a maid in a house located at Nedish Vihar in Sainik Colony, had gone to close the main gate of the house at 11.30 PM on March 23 but did not come back.

She was wearing a brown shirt, black pajama and sleepers. Any information about the missing girl may be communicated at mobile phone numbers 9149539800 and 9419195169 or police post Sainik Colony.

Soldier killed, 9 injured in mishap

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Mar 26: A soldier was killed and nine others suffered injuries when a speedy truck hit army's search party vehicle at Awantipora area of South Kashmir today.

A truck bearing registration number PB-06V-5657 collided with army's search party vehicle of 329 Field Regiment of Victor Force at Awantipora along Srinagar-Jammu highway. Nine soldiers and the truck driver along with its conductor were injured in the mishap.

Safai Karamcharis suspend work, hold protest

Excelsior Correspondent

KATHUA, Mar 26: The Safai Karamchari Union went on strike and held a protest demonstration against the Municipal Committee Lakhampur and suspended work in protest against the authorities behaviour towards them.

The Safai Karamcharis led by Union president Sawan Chida sat on protest dhama in front of Municipal Committee Lakhampur and raised anti Government slogans. While addressing Sawan Chida, Pushappa, Rama and Sham Lal they criticized the attitude of Municipal Committee Lakhampur authorities.

They alleged that the Safai Karamchari are harassed by the senior officer and staff work force them to work out of limit. They said that they were forced to work out of way in the houses and private establishment of politicians.

Even they were asked to visit politicians houses for cleaning their premises during odd hours. They demanded action against erring officers and transfer of such officers immediately, otherwise they will intensify agitation.

CDE on tooth preparation organized by IDA

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 26: Indian Dental Association Jammu Branch (IDA Jammu) today held a Continuing Dental Education (CDE) programme.

More than 50 delegates participated in the CDE. Dr Sahul Lerra, president and Dr Sarang Khajuria, general secretary of IDA Jammu branch informed that the speaker of the event was Dr. Kunwarjeet Singh, a prominent and well known Prosthodontist of the country, who has been conducting clinical courses on Implant Prosthodontics and Esthetic dentistry and has trained more than 800 dentists with his knowledge.

He has also developed an innovation technique for Prosthodontic management of Microstomia patient which has been published in the American journal of prosthodontics. Dr. Divya Gupta stated that such programs help in enhancing the skills of the new and budding dentists and more such programs will be carried out in the future.

The event was also attended by the working committee members Dr. Nidhi Khajuria, Dr. Vasit Khajuria, Dr. Namita Mukhi, Dr. Niharika Gupta and Dr. Palak Mahajan.

Army recruitment rally from May 26

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Mar 26: Army today said a recruitment rally will be conducted at Chhankot Tangdar in north Kashmir's Kupwara district from May 26 to May 28 this year.

An army spokesperson said Srinagar based Army Recruiting Office will host a recruitment rally at Chhankot, Tangdar from May 26 to May 28 for all categories. "Screening of the eligible candidates volunteering to join the army will be carried out at the rally site. Recruitment will be done by an open rally for which candidates have to register at the rally site," he said.

He added that the Common Entrance Exam (CEE) (Written Test) for the qualified candidates and review medical candidates will be held on July 29 at JAK LI Regimental Centre, Srinagar.

He further informed that screening will be conducted for Soldier General Duty, Soldier Clerk, Soldier Tradesmen, Soldier Technical and Soldier Nursing Assistant categories during the rally. The screening will include physical fitness tests, Physical Measurement tests, documents check and medical examination, he said.

Young widow ends life

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, Mar 26: In an apparent case of suicide, a young widow was today found hanging with ceiling fan hook at her house in village Kotla Panchari.

The deceased was identified as Bishna Devi (35), daughter of Shankar Dass of village Kotla Panchari. She was found hanging with a fan hook under mysterious circumstances.

Family member spotted her hanging and immediately called the police. Panchari police rushed to the spot and shifted the dead body to

Kidnapped girl recovered

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Mar 26: Police today recovered a kidnapped girl within 24 hours of filing a report.

A police spokesperson said that on Sunday Police Station Budgam received a written complaint from Aijaz Ahmad of Kakan Maran that his sister (name withheld) had been kidnapped by Zahoor Ahmad Dar of Chatabugh Budgam.

A case FIR No. 56/2018 under Section 363 RPC was, immediately, registered and an investigation was taken up, he said.

He added that during the course of an investigation, raids were conducted by Budgam police at various suspected places and subsequently the girl was recovered and the accused was also arrested during the same intervening night.

Abducting drug peddlers held

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Mar 26: Police today arrested two abducting drug peddlers in Handwara area of north Kashmir's Kupwara district.

A police spokesperson said they were arrested following a tip-off about their presence at Dolipora area in Handwara. The accused were identified as Parvaiz Ahmad Malik and Irshad Ahmad Malik both sons of Abdul Jabbar Malik of Daril Payeen Vilgam in Handwara.

He added they were abducting after a consignment of charas was recovered from their house a few days ago.

Congregation

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 26: The bi-annual congregation of Akhil Bhartiya Mahotra Biradars will be held on April 15 at Kuldevta Baba Bhanu Nath Ji Fankah, Sumb Road, district Samba.

All the Biradars members are requested to participate in the congregation along with their family members to seek blessings of the Kuldevta.

Bank fraud: ED attaches assets worth Rs 55.65cr

Excelsior Correspondent

NEW DELHI/KOLKATA, Mar 26: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) today attached assets worth Rs 55.65 crore of a Kolkata-based computer manufacturing firm in connection with its money laundering probe in an alleged bank fraud of over Rs 515 crore, officials said.

The agency's zonal office in the West Bengal capital issued a provisional order under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) attaching lands, plots and residential flats in Ahmedabad, Kochi, West Bengal, Bengaluru and Mumbai as part of the action against the firm R P Info Systems and its directors.

A total of 66 vehicles and bank deposits to the tune of Rs 2 lakh have also been attached, they said. The total value of the attachment is Rs 55.65 crore, they said.

The ED had lodged a PMLA case in the matter based on a CBI FIR. The CBI in February had booked the firm and its directors Shivaji Panja, Kaustuv Ray and Vinay Bafna for allegedly cheating a consortium of banks to the tune of Rs 515.15 crore.

It is not the first time that the company has had a brush with the law as the CBI had booked it in 2015 for cheating IDBI Bank, once a leader of the consortium before relinquishing the position in 2013, to the tune of Rs 180 crore. (PTI)

102 kg poppy straw seized, 2 smugglers arrested

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, Mar 26: In a major success, Police today seized 102 kgs of poppy straw, which was being smuggled in an oil tanker.

The tanker was intercepted during a surprise naka at Bansa Morh by Police parties of PS Rehmbal and PP Tikri, led by Inspr Sanjeev Chib and SI Sanjeet Sharma, under supervision of Kameshwar Puri, DySP HQ.

During search of the said tanker, bearing registration number JK02AJ-0275, 102 kg of poppy straw was recovered from the possession of Tanker driver, namely Puraan Chand son of Rattan Lal of Bansa, Tikri and his associate Sudesh Singh, son of Gyan Chand of Barneka, Tikri.

Both of them were arrested on the spot and recovered poppy straw was also seized. In this connection, a case FIR No. 41 /2018 U/S 8/15/29 NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Rehmbal and further investigation has been taken up.

Interaction with Dr Baljeet Raina organized

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 26: 'Rubru' an interactive programme initiated by Department of Punjabi took place at Punjabi Department with interaction session with well known writer, poet, film, TV and stage director Dr Baljeet Raina today.

Intellectuals, writers, artists faculty members and students of the department were present on this occasion. Khalid Hussain, Dr Monojit, Hardeep Singh Gill and Dr Baljeet Kaur, HoD, Punjabi Department, shared the premium.

Dr Arvinder Singh Amn, Additional Secretary, JKAACL, Khalid Hussain, Swamy Antermirav and other guests spoke on this occasion. Queries about his concepts, themes, style and vividness in choosing mediums like Punjabi and Hindi in expressions were raised by the participants. Dr Raina, who has contributed in the field of Punjabi and Hindi literature, elaborated his experiences of life in the field of literature, theatre, TV and films and replied to the queries related to the quoted fields.

The proceedings were conducted by Dr Kamaldeep Singh and Dr Pritan Singh extended the vote of thanks.



Mohammed Shafi Zahid, Director Archives, Archaeology & Museums J&K Government has been conferred the prestigious Rashtriya Gaurav Award by India International Friendship Society for his meritorious services, outstanding performance and remarkable role. The Award was presented to him by former Governor of Chhatisgarh, MP and Tripura, Lt Gen (ret'd) Krishna Mohan Seth at a seminar on Economic Growth and National Integration at New Delhi on Monday.

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