

# Top News OF J&K



JAMMU, TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2025

Daily Evening Newspaper

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**Aamir Khan's big plans for dream project Mahabharat: Might need multiple filmmakers**



**Every word spoken by constitutional functionary guided by national interest: Dhankhar**

**Australia Election: Early voting begins as Albanese takes lead over Dutton**



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## BRIEFLY

### Finance Deptt asks DDCs to furnish district plans before April 30

JAMMU, Apr 22 (Agencies): Finance Department today conveyed ceiling of Capex Budget including District Capex under Budget Estimate (BE) 2025-26 through BEAMS portal in favour of all departments and District Development Commissioners.

All the District Development Commissioners have been asked to furnish District Plans in consultation with DDC members and MLAs by or before April 30, 2025. Further, it has been clearly mentioned that the timeline for completion of new works/activities taken up for execution during the financial year 2025-26, should be between one to two years. In rare cases of mega-projects, the department may extend timeline up to three years.

### Salal Dam gates opened to manage heavy water inflow into Chenab River

JAMMU, Apr 22 (Agencies): Authorities on Tuesday opened the gates of the Salal hydro-electric power project dam to ease the heavy inflow of water into the Chenab river in the wake of continuous rains in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district, officials said.

Locals have been asked to remain vigilant and keep away from the banks of the river.

"Due to the high inflow and increasing trend in the Chenab River, the gates of the Salal Dam have been opened as a precautionary safety measure," a senior National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) official said.

He said the discharge into the Chenab river is very high, causing the water level downstream of the Salal dam to rise. "Due to this, it is not advisable for people, vehicles, livestock, and animals to approach the river. Therefore, the general public in the area is informed to take proper precautions and avoid going near the banks of the Chenab river during this period," he said.

The district administration has issued an alert in Reasi as water levels rise in river rise.

An official at the dam control said the water level in the river had

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## 12 tourists injured in terror attack in Pahalgam

SRINAGAR, Apr 22 (Agencies): At least 12 tourists were injured in a terrorist attack in Pahalgam in Anantnag district of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday, officials said.

The attack took place at Baisaran, a meadow accessible only by foot or ponies, where a group of tourists had gone visiting this morning, they said.

According to an eyewitness, unidentified



gunmen opened fire on the tourists from close range, resulting in injuries to several persons. "My husband was

shot in the head while seven others were also injured in the attack," a woman survivor said over phone.

The woman did not identify herself but pleaded for help in evacuating the injured to the hospital.

Authorities pressed a chopper into service for the evacuation of the injured, the officials said, adding some of the wounded were brought down from the meadows by local people on their ponies.

A doctor at the Pahalgam hospital said 12

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## Restoring traffic on Jammu-Srinagar highway within 24 hours our priority: CM Omar

RAMBAN, Apr 22 (Agencies): Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday said there was no shortage of supplies in the valley despite the 250-km strategic Jammu-Srinagar National Highway remaining blocked due to landslides and mudslides for the third day.

The highway was blocked in multiple places on Sunday owing to landslides and mudslides triggered by heavy rains and cloudbursts,



especially between Seri and Marroog, a nearly four-kilometre stretch which has suffered major damage.

A massive road clearance operation is underway and the chief min-

ister said he was told by officers that they are trying to open the highway for single-lane traffic within the next 24 hours.

"There is no shortage of supplies in Kashmir... we have everything for the next three to four days," Abdullah told reporters after chairing a meeting with officers at the office of the deputy commissioner here.

The chief minister visited the flood and landslide-hit areas

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### Ramban flash flood: Jammu-Srinagar highway closed for 3rd consecutive day

JAMMU, Apr 22 (Agencies): The strategic Jammu-Srinagar national highway remained closed for the third consecutive day on Tuesday, and officials said it would take five more days to restore the highway.

Engineers of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) said the highway is damaged at 22 locations, and restoration work is in full swing.

Landslides triggered by flash floods killed three people on Sunday in Ramban district, while over 100 were rescued.

Nearly 4 to 5 km of the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway was completely washed away, and the debris buried many vehicles under it.

Hundreds of passengers are stranded on the

highway as authorities stepped in to provide shelter and food to the stranded passengers.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, braving adverse weather, reached Kali Morh on the highway on Monday to personally supervise the relief operation and assess the damage.

He said the damage was huge, but the disaster happened at a local level and as such, it cannot be declared as a 'national disaster'.

CM Abdullah, however, assured that all possible relief and assistance would be provided to the affected families.

Former Chief Minister Dr Farooq Abdullah has requested the Centre to step in with relief for the affected families.

Meanwhile, V.K.

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### Nitishwar Kumar among 7 IAS officers empanelled as AS, AS equivalents

JAMMU, Apr 22 (Agencies): Nitishwar Kumar, former Principal Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, is among seven IAS officers who have been empanelled for holding posts of Additional Secretary (AS) or its equivalent at the Centre by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

Kumar is a 1996 batch IAS officer of the Uttar Pradesh cadre.

Other officers empanelled include Anju Sharma (Gujarat, 1991), Aniruddhe Mukerjee (Madhya Pradesh, 1993), Sunil Kumar Barnwal (Jharkhand, 1997), Manish Bhardwaj (Gujarat, 1997), Shantanu (Tripura, 1997), and Ramesh Kumar Sudhanshu (Uttarakhand, 1997).

### Body of 18-year-old with bullet injury found in Jammu Park, Suicide suspected

JAMMU, Apr 22 (Agencies): The body of a young man with a bullet injury was found inside a park near here on Tuesday, police said.

The 18-year-old was missing for the last couple of days, and it appears that he committed suicide, they said, adding that a pistol was recovered from the park in the Digiana area of Gandhi Nagar.

Suryavansh Choudhary, a resident of Rani Talab, had a bullet mark on the right side of his head. Preliminary investigation suggests he

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## Thirteen Candidates from J&K qualify UPSC 2025, Many already in Government service

SRINAGAR, Apr 22 (Agencies): Thirteen candidates from Jammu and Kashmir have cleared the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) Civil Services Examination 2025, with several of them already in government service, marking a significant showing for the region in this year's results.

Among the top performers is Iram Choudhary from Rajouri, who secured an impressive All India Rank of 40. Her rank places her among the country's top achievers in a year where more than a thousand candidates have been recommended for appointment to India's premier civil services. She had previously qualified with a rank in the 800s, has once again made it to the final list, reinforcing her consistent commit-

ment to public service. Mohammad Muneeb Bhat, currently serving in the Jammu and Kashmir Police Service, secured rank 131. His selection reflects a growing pattern of in-service officers in Jammu and Kashmir leveraging the UPSC route to transition into all-India services.

Other candidates from the region who feature in this year's list include Akshay Parihar with rank 261, Mohammad Haris Mir with rank 314, Manil Bejotra with rank 401, and Akash Gupta, whose rank is reported variously as 431 and 467. The list also includes Ghulam Haider at 633, Sadaf Malik at 742, Yassar Ahmad Bhatti at 768, Nazir Ahmed Bijran at 847, Vishal Deep Chandan at 810, Harjot Singh at 948,

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## Wanted criminal dies in scuffle with police while trying to escape custody in Jammu

JAMMU, Apr 22 (Agencies): A wanted criminal died in a scuffle with cops while trying to escape from police custody along with an aide near here, an official said on Tuesday.

Four cops escorting wanted criminal Mush-taq Ali alias Raj Ali alias Bacchu Don from Punjab to Jammu were also got injured in the incident, a police spokesman said.

Sharing details of the incident, he said a police party from Jammu rounded up Ali and his associate, both wanted in a number of criminal cases in Jammu, Kathua and Samba, from the Baba Batala area of Amritsar with the help of Punjab Police on Monday.

While returning to Jammu, the accused insisted on halting the

vehicle to attend a call of nature but when they were brought down from the van, they "suddenly attacked the police personnel, tried to snatch their weapons and escape from their custody", the spokesman said.

"In a bid to escape, Ali fell on the road and got grievously injured. Four police personnel also sustained minor injuries

trying to prevent their escape," the spokesman said, adding that Ali was rushed to the GMC Hospital in Jammu where doctors declared him dead.

Police have requested Jammu district magistrate to form a board of doctors to conduct the autopsy of the deceased, the spokesman said.

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# GupShup

## RESTAURANT

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**TENTH DAY/KRIYA/RASAM PAGRI**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved mother **Smt. Chander Kanta Makhnotra** W/o Late Sh. Uttam Chand R/o H.No. 12, Sector 2, Model Town Gangyal who expired on 12th April, 2025.

**TENTH DAY** rituals shall be performed on Monday, 21st April at 10 a.m. and **KRIYA** shall be performed on 22nd April (Tuesday), both at our residence.

**UTHALA** shall be performed at Gurudwara Hall Model Town on 23rd April, 2025 (5 p.m. to 6 p.m.).

**Grief Stricken**

Sh. Karam Chand Makhnotra - **Brother-in-law**

Sh. Roop Chand Makhnotra - **Brother-in-law**

**Brother-in-law**

Smt. Babli & Sh. Janak Raj Makhnotra

**Sons & Daughters-in-law**

Smt. Madhu & Sh. Subash Makhnotra

Smt. Reena & Sh. Vinay Vikas Makhnotra

Smt. Suman & Sh. Narinder Padha - **Daughter & Son-in-law**

Miss Bandana Makhnotra - **Daughter**

**Grand Children:**

Anamika, Parul, Danish, Paras, Pursharth

Ph: 7006721778, 9419149996



**Smt. Chander Kanta Makhnotra**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SH. OMKAR NATH KOUL** S/O LATE SH. AMAR CHAND KOUL ORIGINALLY A RESIDENT OF BATAGUND KRENDI-GAM, ANANTNAG PRESENTLY RESIDING AT H.NO. 07, SEC. 01, DURGA NAGAR (ENCLAVE) JAMMU ON 16-04-2025.

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** SHALL TAKE PLACE AT MUTHI GHAT ON 25TH APRIL, 2025 AT ABOUT 8:30 AM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**

**SMT. RATNI KOUL (WIFE)**

**DAUGHTERS-IN-LAW AND SONS**

**SMT. SUNITA & SH. RAMESH KUMAR KOUL**

**SMT. JULLEY & SH. VUJAY KOUL**

**GRANDCHILDREN**

**RISHU & RAHUL KOUL**

**RICHU, PARTH, HARDIK**

**MOB: 9469213893, 9797850569**



**SH. OMKAR NATH KOUL**

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of **Sh. Brij Nath Labroo**, S/o Late Sh. Darshan Pandit, erstwhile resident of Ranipora, Anantnag, and presently residing at House No. 18, Durga Vihar, Near Toll Post Nagrota. He passed away on 17/04/2025.

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed on 26.04.2025, Saturday (08:30 AM) at Muthi Ghat Near Directorate of School Education, Jammu.

**GRIEF-STRICKEN:**

**Smt. Kamla Ji (Wife)**

**Pyarey Lal Labroo (Son)**

**Shubam Ji Labroo and Sunila Labroo (Son and Daughter-in-law)**

**Ashok Kumar Bhat and Sunanda Bhat (Son-in-law and Daughter)**

**Ashok Ji Raina and Soni Raina (Son-in-law and Daughter)**

**Grandchildren: Sacel, Shivam, Rohit, Amit, Rik, Rakshit**

**Samast Labroo, Ganjoo, Raina, Bhat Parivar. Mobile No: 7006260510, 6006259302, 9419538464**



**SH. BRIJ NATH LABROO**

**10TH DAY KRIYA**

WITH PROFOUND GRIEF AND SORROW WE REGRET TO INFORM THE SAD DEMISE OF OUR BELOVED **SHREE AVTAR KRISHAN BHAT** S/O LATE SHREE

**BALBADHAR BHAT** ORIGINALLY FROM DARBAGH HARWAN SRINAGAR KASHMIR. PRESENTLY AT HOUSE NO 20 LANE NO 5

ANAND NAGAR BOHRI JAMMU

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** WILL BE PERFORMED ON 23/04/25 (WEDNESDAY) AT

MUTHI GHAT (NEAR DIRECTOR SCHOOL EDUCATION) AT 9.00 AM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

**SAMAST BHAT PARIVAR OF DARBAGH HARWAN AND KAUL'S (HABBA KADAL)**

**9623447291, 9419182902, 8715830093, 9149543147**



**SHREE AVTAR KRISHAN BHAT**

**CHOWARSI/FOURTH DEATH ANNIVERSARY**

"Your love & memories continue to guide us every day."

In Loving Memory of

**Late Mrs. Radha Rani Nathyal**

W/o Mr. Shamsher Singh Nathyal, the Chowarsi will be observed at her native village **Naryana-Tehsil Khour-Jammu** on Wednesday, 23rd April 2025.

Trusting that those who knew her will keep her in their thoughts & join prayer.

**Fondly Remembered & Missed by:-**

**NATHYAL FAMILY**

Naryana-Khour-Jammu/Sainik Colony-Jammu/Nandpur-Samba

**BAGAL FAMILY**

Raya-Samba/Peetampura-New Delhi/Bandhu Rakh-Jammu

**MRS. RADHA NATHYAL MEMORIAL FOUNDATION**

West Patel Nagar-New Delhi/Barakhamba Road-New Delhi/Trikuta Nagar-Jammu

**Phone sign:- +91 94192 12355/+91 94192 82148/9717494574/+91 94191 01009**

**Note:** Out station persons taking journey from Akhnor to Naryana are requested to take upper road leading through Sohal & Kaleeth towns



**LATE MRS. RADHA RANI NATHYAL**

**UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved Mother **Smt. Sudesh Gupta**, wife of Late Sh. Chanan Lal Gupta, on 21st April 2025.

**UTHALA** will be performed on 23rd Apr, Wednesday, at Mahajan Sabha, Shalamar Road, Jammu from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**

Smt Naina Gupta & Chander Shekhar (Retd) Xen

Smt Mandira Gupta & Col Ravi Bhushan Gupta

Smt Rama Gupta & Anil Gupta (Retd IAS)

Smt Nidhi Gupta & Vinod Gupta

Smt Romy Gupta & Sanjay Gupta

(President Raghunath Bazar Businessmen Association).

**AND GRAND CHILDREN**

**W/S FASHION WAYS, RAGHUNATH BAZAR JAMMU.**

**MOB: 9419113809, 9419188590**



**SMT. SUDESH GUPTA**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Smt. Renu Ganjoo** w/o Sh. Rajesh Ganjoo originally resident of Zaloor Sopore, presently residing at H.No. 31 Gobind Nagar (Bank Colony) Gole Gujral Road, Talab Tillo Jammu, 180002 who breathed her last on 19-03-2025 at a very young age.

**10th Day Kriya** will be held on 28-04-2025 Monday at Muthi Ghat (Near Directorate of School Education Jammu) at 8:00 am.

**Grief Stricken:**

**Smt. Tosha Ganjoo- Mother in Law**

**Sh. Rajesh Ganjoo- Husband**

**Miss Simran Ganjoo- Daughter**

**Miss Shagun Ganjoo- Daughter**

**Smt. Simmi Ganjoo and Sh. Sunil Ganjoo - Sister in Law and Brother in Law**

**Smt. Fency Pandita and Sh. Anil Pandita - Sister in Law and Brother in Law**

**Piyush, Danya, Arin, Kristy- Nephews and Nieces**

**9501544786, 9306601202, 9622045693**



**Smt. Renu Ganjoo**

**TENTH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Giano Devi** W/o Late Capt. Gian Chand who left for heavenly abode on 14 April 2025.

**Tenth day** will held on 23 April 2025. (Wednesday) at 11.00 am at our residence vill. Chak Hasal teh-Bishnah

**Grief Stricken**

**All Panhotra & Bhagat Family**

**9070671430, 8493854420**



**Smt. Giano Devi**

**TENTH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and pain we inform untimely demise of our beloved **Vimal Kaul** S/o Shri Maharaj Krishan Kaul. At present Flat No 43 SF Saraswati Vihar Kapurthala Road, Jalandhar (Punjab) Originally resident of Village Soper Dist Kulgam Kashmir in a tragic road accident on 14 th April 2025.

**TENTH DAY KRIYA** will be performed at Bias River on 23 rd April 2025 and

**Assembly** will be held at our residence

**12 O'clock.**

**GRIEF STRICKEN**

**Dimple Kaul (Wife)**

**Mayra (Daughter)**

**M. K. Kaul & Shama Kaul (Father & Mother)**

**Vishal Kaul & Simmi Kaul (Brother & Bhabhi)**

**Vinod Kaul & Usha Kaul (Uncle & Aunty)**

**MOBILE NO : M. K KAUL 8427754390, VINOD KAUL 8825041826**



**VIMAL KAUL**

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform you that our beloved Dr. Abhit Chandel left for heavenly abode on 12-04-2025.

We pray to the Almighty for his soul to attain eternal peace. His presence in our lives was a blessing, and his memory will forever live in our hearts. We invite all family members, friends, and well-wishers to join us in honoring his soul and praying for his eternal peace.

The **Tenth Day** shall be performed on Monday 21st April 2025 and **Kriya** will be performed on Thursday 24th April 2025 at our residence, Ward No. 2, Billawar from 10:00 AM onwards.

**GRIEF-STRICKEN:-**

**Sh. Harish Chandel (Father)**

**Smt. Anita Chandel (Mother)**

**Aakshi Chandel (Sister)**

**Sh. Harbans Lal Chandel (Uncle)**

**Sh. Mohinder Kumar Chandel (Uncle)**

**Dr. Pankaj Chandel (Brother)**

**Contact No: 9149690829, 9596549913**



**LATE DR. ABHIT CHANDEL**

**10TH DAY KRIYA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sudden and sad demise of our beloved **Smt. Shashi Kumari**, W/o Predman Krishan Pandit, erstwhile resident of Vessu, District Anantnag at present H No-65, Sector-06, EWS Colony, Lower Roop Nagar, Near Pointers Computer Institute.

**Tenth Day Kriya** will be performed on 24.04.2025 (Thursday) at Muthi Ghat, Near Directorate of School Education Jammu. Assembly time will be 8.30 AM.

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**

**(Mother in law)**

**Smt. Usha Rani W/o Late. Soom Nath Pandit.**

**Smt. Rani Pandita W/o Late. Moli Lal Pandita.**

**Predman Krishen (Husband)**

**Ram Krishen. (Brother in Law)**

**(Brother in Law & Bhabhi)**

**Rakesh Pandita & Anjali Pandita.**

**Priya Pandita. (Daughter)**

**Sandhit Pandita. (Son)**

**Rahul Pandita. (Son)**

**Smt. Meena Bhat W/o Late Mohan Lal Bhat (Bua)**

**Smt. Khemashori & Sh. A K Koul (Bua & Fuffa)**

**Smt. Kishni Bhat & Sh. Sohan Lal Bhat (Sister & Brother in law)**



**Smt. Shashi Kumari**

Deeply Remembered By:-  
Pandit, Bhat, Koul, Raina Parivars.  
Mob:- 9419221085, 9419101319,  
8082201713.

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA**

With profound grief and sorrow, we regret to inform the sad demise of our beloved **Mr. K.K. Sharma** (Retd Dy Director, Youth Services and Sports Department) S/o Late Shri Kedar Nath Sharma, who left for heavenly abode on 14th April, 2025.

**Tenth Day Rituals** shall be performed on Tuesday, the 22nd April at 11:00 AM and **KRIYA** shall be performed on 23rd April (Wednesday), both at H.No. 26-J, Lane 6, Tawi Vihar Colony, Sidhra. **UTHALA** shall be performed at Shiv Mandir, Sector 3, Trikuta Nagar on 28th April, 2025 (5:00 PM to 6:00 PM)

**GRIEF STRICKEN:**

**Mrs Vini (Neena) Sharma (Wife)**

**Mrs Sheetal and Mr. Mohinder Sharma (Sister and Brother-in-Law)**

**Mrs Shalini and Mr. Vikas Sharma (Daughter and Son-in-Law)**

**Mrs Shivani and Mr. Dhing Choudhary (Daughter and Son-in-Law)**

**Mr. Ronil and Mrs. Hans Jaggi (Nephew and Daughter-in-Law)**

**Brothers-in-Law and Bhabhis**

**Mrs Parveen Kumaar W/o Late Shri Jagdish Jaggi**

**Mr. Kuldeep and Mrs Sugandha Manikola**

**Mr. Rajnish and Mrs. Jyoti Manikola**

**Sisters-in-Law and Co-Sisters**

**Mrs Snehlata and Mr. Nareesh Bhat**

**Mrs Suman and Mr. Ravinder Mahotra**



**Shri K. K. Sharma**

Grandchildren: Vaibhav, Shamya, Shivraj and Divit  
Mobile: 9419243158, 914677758

**TENTH DAY/KRIYA**

WITH PROFOUND SORROW AND HEARTFELT REVERENCE, WE INFORM YOU OF THE PASSING OF OUR BELOVED **COLONEL KEWAL KRISHAN DOGRA (RETD.)** R/O 423, SHASTRI NAGAR, JAMMU-180004 WHO HAS GRACEFULLY EMBARKED UPON HIS ETERNAL JOURNEY TOWARDS PEACE AND LIBERATION ON 13TH APRIL, 2025.

AS WE COME TOGETHER TO HONOR A LIFE MARKED BY DIGNITY, SERVICE AND QUIET STRENGTH, WE REQUEST YOU TO JOIN US IN PRAYER AND REMEMBRANCE.

**TENTH DAY CEREMONY:** TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2025 AT 11:00 AM AT 423, SHASTRI NAGAR, JAMMU.

**KRIYA CEREMONY:** WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025 AT 12:00 NOON AT 423, SHASTRI NAGAR, JAMMU

**SHANTI PATH :** WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025 FROM 4:30 - 5:30 PM AT SHIV TEMPLE, GANDHI NAGAR (NEAR A-TYPE GOVT. QUARTERS), JAMMU.

**IN REMEMBRANCE**

**SMT. MRIDULA DOGRA (WIFE)**

**DAUGHTERS & SONS-IN-LAW:**

**DR. SHIVANI DOGRA TYAGI & BRIG (DR.) JARVIND KUMAR TYAGI (RETD.)**

**DR. SHRUTI DOGRA NAUTYAL & COL. MRITUNJAYA NAUTYAL (RETD.)**

**BROTHERS & SISTERS-IN-LAW:**

**LATE ADV. RAM KRISHAN DOGRA & LATE SMT. LEKHA DOGRA**

**DR. SAROJ SHARMA (W/O LATE DR. BAL KRISHAN SHARMA)**

**SMT. KALPANA (W/O LATE SH. KRISHAN DUTT DOGRA)**

**BROTHERS-IN-LAW & SISTERS-IN-LAW:**

**ER. ARUN SHARMA & SMT. PINKY SHARMA**

**ER. VINOD SHARMA & SMT. INDU SHARMA**

**SMT. BELA SANT & ER. RAJIV SANT**



**COLONEL KEWAL KRISHAN DOGRA (RETD.)**

Grandchildren: DR. KUNAL TYAGI OR SUBHARTH TYAGI

ADV. JARVIND NAUTYAL AND

MISS GAUR NAUTYAL

THE DOGRA FAMILY

CONTACT : - 9419797538, 9419256556

**FIFTH DAY**

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved sister **Smt. Veena Nanda (Retd. Head Mistress)** W/o Late Sh. Satish Nanda (Veterinary Surgeon) who left for heavenly abode on 19th of April 2025.

**Fifth Day** will be performed on April 23rd 2025 (Wednesday) 11.0



## POJK Displaced Persons demand inclusion in ST II category, urge immediate action

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 22: Under a bright spring sky in Jammu district, the Youth Committee of the 1947 Poonch Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (POJK) Displaced Persons—ethnically Pahari and long exiled from their ancestral Poonch homes—held a spirited press conference today to highlight an urgent identity crisis.

Senior members of the community, Sarpanches, Panches, retired professionals, and social activists gathered to press the central government to extend Scheduled Tribe II (ST II) recognition to their people, who have waited over 75 years for full rehabilitation and equal rights.

Addressing a packed hall, the Committee's spokesperson painted a vivid picture of displacement and perseverance. "Our forebears were uprooted at Partition, and though we have built new lives here, our Pahari identity remains unrecognized," they said. "Granting us ST-II status would not only



acknowledge our suffering but unlock access to education, economic opportunity, and governmental protection that have eluded us for decades."

Throughout the conference, speakers laid out detailed documentation of the POJK DP's demographic and cultural profiles, drawing parallels to other Pahadi communities already granted ST status. They argued these shared markers—language, customs, and historic marginalization—provide solid constitutional grounds for their inclusion, just as they have for peer groups in Himachal Pradesh and Uttara-

rakhand. In a united appeal, representatives called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah to expedite the process. "We appeal directly to the highest offices in the land," said a former Panch, voice resolute.

"Our community deserves the same legal safeguards and development schemes that ST designation affords elsewhere."

Looking ahead, the POJK youth committee announced plans to intensify their peaceful campaign: sit in demonstrations at key government offices, targeted

social media outreach, and meetings with lawmakers across party lines. They vowed to keep the momentum until their demands—restoration of identity and equitable treatment—are met.

Every person present traced their residence to one of the established DP settlements in Jammu: Badyal Brahmana, Bhour Camp, Simbal Camp, Brij Nagar, Railway Patri, Rohi Morh, Jassore, Purana Pind, Mokhe, and beyond. United by history and hope, they stood together as living proof of a community still seeking its rightful place in the Republic.

## Rajni Sethi for action and accountability in Ramban calamity

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 22: A very unfortunate incident occurred recently in the Ramban district due to a severe natural calamity. Many people have lost their homes, livestock, and essential belongings. Today, they are struggling to survive, without proper shelter, food, or even clothes to wear. In this time of crisis, their neighbors have stepped forward to help them, showing the spirit of humanity and unity. However, a major question arises — where is the administration? Are they fulfilling their responsibilities sincerely?

This was stated by Rajni Sethi, Spokesperson, J&K BJP, who was also accompanied by Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Media Incharge, J&K BJP and Adv. Jasmeet Kour Pandey, former Councillor, while addressing a press conference at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

It is disheartening to see that just a few days ago, the flight of Hon'ble CM Omar Abdullah was diverted to Jaipur due to bad weather. He expressed frustration over the situation, even using inappropriate language against the administration and posting his discontent on social media platform X. With due respect, I would like to ask Omar Abdullah Ji: While you have the means to express your grievances publicly, what about the common people stranded on highways without food, water, or shelter? Who will raise their voices? Who will listen to their pain?

At a time when the affected people need strong leadership and compassion, political leaders are still debating whether to declare this a "National Calamity" or a "Major Disaster." Why must the public suffer amid such bureaucratic delays



and political differences?

We deeply appreciate the efforts of the Leader of Opposition, Shri Sunil Sharma Ji, who visited the affected areas, met with the people, and assured them of complete assistance under national and state calamity relief procedures. His prompt response is commendable and brings some hope to the suffering people. We must also recognize the invaluable efforts of NGOs,

RSS volunteers, and the Indian Army, who have stepped in selflessly to provide food, medical help, and other essential facilities to those in need. Their service to the people deserves heartfelt thanks.

Amid this crisis, another heartbreaking incident was discovered — several containers used for cow smuggling were found during the calamity, with animals inside dead under horrific conditions. These containers had reportedly

entered from Lakhampur and crossed several checkpoints. This raises serious concerns — how did they pass through so many Nakas unnoticed? Who is responsible for this inhumane act?

I request the Director General of Police to take this matter seriously. Strict action must be taken against those involved in such crimes, which not only violate animal rights but also reveal loopholes in law enforcement.

Lastly, I would like to express my gratitude to the media and social media platforms for bravely bringing the truth to light. Their fearless reporting has helped raise awareness and hold authorities accountable.

Let us all work together — beyond politics — to ensure justice, relief, and rehabilitation for those suffering in Ramban.

## Slathia, Gharu Ram holds public Darbar at BJP headquarters

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 22: BJP vice-president and MLA Surjit Singh Slathia, and MLA Prof Gharu Ram Bhagat listened to the public grievances in a public darbar held at party Headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Dozens of deputations visited the public darbar and presented their respective issues before the senior party leaders.

Public Darbar witnessed participation from dozens of deputations who brought forth a range of issues including revenue matters, Public Health Engineering (PHE), Power Development Department (PDD), road infrastructure, and maintenance of lanes and drains.

Senior BJP leaders immediately took up the presented issues with the concerned department officials and pressed for their time-



bound disposal.

While listening to the public issues, Surjit Singh Slathia, while listening to the grievances, affirmed that they are serving as dedicated public representatives of a responsible and accountable political party. He added that the BJP's MPs, MLAs and other leaders have dedicated themselves completely in the service of nation and society.

"In recognition of the BJP's steadfast commitment to addressing public grievances, citizens approach our party offices with confidence and trust. This unwav-

ering belief in our ability to resolve their concerns underscores our duty to act diligently and effectively," he added.

Prof. Gharu Ram Bhagat reaffirmed the BJP's commitment to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas,' emphasizing inclusive development across all sections of society, regardless of caste, religion, or region. He highlighted that party leaders are actively engaged in addressing public concerns by raising them on appropriate platforms and striving for effective solutions.

## BLSKS celebrates World Earth Day with lyrical Nukkad Natak

### Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 22: On a hopeful spring evening at Durga Bhawan, Janipur, the Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan (BLSKS) unfurled a stirring tableau of tradition and environmental conscience. Marking the 55th World Earth Day under this year's clarion call—"Our Power, Our Planet"—the 390th Tuesday Series Dogri Musical Play, Shakti Sari Dharti Sarhi, wove poetic drama and folk music into a Nukkad Natak that both entertained and awakened the soul.

The program opened with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by V.K. Magotra, former Regional Director of the Directorate of Field Publicity (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting), accompanied by Dr. Anju Dogra (Health Department, J&K), Dr. Tara Singh Charak

(former Deputy Director, J&K Health Department), and media veteran Mr. Mukesh Singh. Their words, blending praise for the pristine Himalayan air and caution against pollution's silent creep, set the stage for an evening of cultural rejuvenation.

Under Dr. M.L. Dogra's visionary direction, young actors and musicians brought to life powerful slogans—"Pead Bacho, Desh Bachao," "Jal Hi Jeevan, Jeevan Hi Jal Hai," and "Hariyali Laye, Prithvi Bachaen"—each line a brushstroke in an ecological fresco. Between spirited dances and soulful renditions of "Hara Bhara Ho Sansaar Humara" and "Reuse Your Today So You Don't Have to Reduce Your Tomorrow," the audience felt the pulse of Duggar culture and the heartbeat of a planet in need of care.

Ph.no. 0191-2458456  
Fax no. 0191-2458465

**Government of Jammu and Kashmir**  
**Directorate of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department Jammu**  
**Near Nehru Market Ware House Jammu**  
\*\*\*\*\*

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the general public, particularly AAY (Antyodaya Anna Yojana) beneficiaries of Jammu Division, that additional foodgrains shall be provided free of cost to eligible AAY households from April 2025 onwards as per Government Order No. 25-JK(FCS&CA) of 2025 dated 02.04.2025, issued by the Department of Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Jammu.

The said provision is being made to augment the monthly food requirements of AAY households under the Public Distribution System. The additional allocation of free foodgrains shall be made as per the number of eligible family members in each AAY household. The entitlement is detailed below:

No. of Beneficiaries in AAY Household	Present Entitlement (in Kgs)	Additional Free foodgrains to be allowed (in Kgs)
1	35	0
2	35	0
3	35	0
4	35	5
5	35	15
6	35	25
7	35	35
8	35	45
9	35	55
10	35	65
Above 10	35	As per rationale above


All eligible beneficiaries are requested to contact their respective Fair Price Shop (FPS) dealers to avail the additional quota of foodgrains as per their entitlement.

This initiative is aimed at strengthening food security and ensuring welfare of the most vulnerable households.

No:204/G/1071-1076  
Dated: 19/04/2025

DIP/J-464/25

Sd/-  
Director  
FCS&CA Department  
Jammu

  
**Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir**  
**Office of the Warden Govt. Boys Pahari Hostel Jammu**  
Office Address: Opposite: Radha Sowami Ashram Keran Bantlab Jammu, 181205  
Email: [bjphjammu@gmail.com](mailto:bjphjammu@gmail.com)  
Notice No :- 10-12 of 2025  
Dated:- 19 /04/2025.

**Subject: - Advertisement for part time Tutor for six month.**

Application on plan papers are invited from qualified un-employed persons for temporary engagement of part time teacher from 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> class for imparting coaching in English ,Science ,Mathematics ,Science , in Govt.Boys Pahari Hostel Jammu on the below mention rates and as per prescribed criteria .

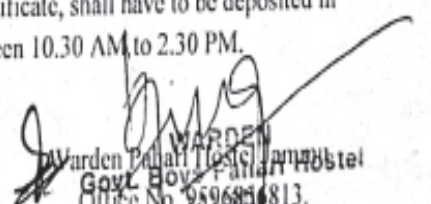
The application enclosed with requisite documents should reach to this office within ten (10) days from the date of issuance of the notice in press .

S.NO	DETAIL	QUALIFICATION	HONORARIUM P.M
01	2.Part time teacher	MSc,B.Sc. B.Ed Non-Medical/ MSc,B.Sc.B.Ed.Medical	3000/- P.M for six month
02	Working hour	i) 7am to 9am ii) 4pm to 6pm	(Morning Shift) (Evening Shift)

Terms and conditions:-

- The applicants must be residing in district Jammu; -preference shall be given to the residents of the town or within 4 km circumference of the hostel i.e. nearest residing candidates.
- Application attached with attested copies of qualification certificate, shall have to be deposited in the office of Warden Govt.Boys Pahari Hostel Jammu. Between 10.30 AM to 2.30 PM.
- Preference shall be given to the trained aspirants.

DIP/J-462/25

  
Warden Govt.Boys Pahari Hostel  
Govt. Boys Pahari Hostel  
Office No. 2458465



EDITORIAL

SELF-RELIANT INDIA

Embracing the dream of a truly self-reliant India is like tending a vast, vibrant garden: it demands vision, perseverance, and the gentle hand of collaboration. To cultivate Atmanirbhar Bharat, we must sow seeds across every sector—industry, agriculture, energy, technology, and human capital—nurturing each with policy, innovation, and community spirit. Only then will our nation bloom, a testament to collective resolve and creative might.

At the heart of self-reliance lies “Make in India,” but this mantra must evolve into “Create in India.” We need to transition from assembly-line manufacturing to end-to-end design, R&D, and high-value production. Incentives should reward companies that develop indigenous components—semiconductors, precision machinery, green hydrogen electrolyzers—rather than relying on imports. Special economic zones can be reimagined as innovation hubs, linking universities with startups and established firms. By nurturing small and medium enterprises through simplified regulations, easy financing, and technology transfer, we empower them to grow into national and global champions.

India’s farmers are the custodians of our food security, yet they often toil under uncertainty. A truly self-reliant nation guarantees fair prices, modern inputs, and climate-resilient practices. We must scale up micro-irrigation, organic farming, and agroforestry, harnessing satellite data and AI to forecast weather and optimize planting cycles. Farmer producer organizations can gain strength by pooling resources, accessing cold chains, and negotiating on equal terms with buyers. Empowered by mobile platforms that deliver real-time market intelligence, our cultivators will no longer be price-takers but informed entrepreneurs, fueling rural prosperity and national self-sufficiency.

Innovation is the lifeblood of progress. To anchor long-term self-reliance, India must invest deeply in frontier technologies—artificial intelligence, quantum computing, biotechnology, and advanced materials. National and state governments should establish “Future Labs” where researchers, coders, and entrepreneurs collaborate on open challenges: affordable diagnostics, next-gen batteries, and precision agriculture. By strengthening patent protections, easing technology licensing, and funding seed grants, we can transform breakthroughs into scalable solutions. When our brightest minds see a path from lab bench to market stall, they’ll stay—and propel India to global leadership.

Energy independence is essential for economic autonomy and environmental stewardship. India can harness its abundant sunlight, wind corridors, and coastal tides to leapfrog into a renewables-first future. Accelerating rooftop solar installations, modernizing transmission grids, and integrating battery storage will reduce dependence on imported fossil fuels. Green hydrogen—produced from renewable electricity—can decarbonize heavy industries and transport. Through public-private partnerships, we can build giga-projects that create jobs, foster local manufacturing of solar panels and wind turbines, and secure India’s energy sovereignty while combating climate change.

A self-reliant India is only as strong as its people. We must revolutionize education to cultivate critical thinking, digital literacy, and lifelong learning. Vocational training centers, linked to regional industry needs, will equip youth with the skills that modern factories, labs, and services require. Women’s empowerment—through targeted loans, mentorship, and flexible work models—will multiply our collective potential. Moreover, social safety nets must guarantee that technological disruption does not leave the most vulnerable behind. When every citizen can contribute, and every talent finds its stage, our human reservoir becomes an unshakable pillar of self-reliance.

The Digital India initiative laid the groundwork for online services and identity systems; now we must deepen digital inclusion. High-speed internet in every village catalyzes telemedicine, e-learning, and e-commerce, knitting remote communities into the national tapestry. Transparent governance—through open data portals, blockchain-enabled land records, and streamlined grievance redressal—will reduce corruption and empower citizens. When people trust institutions and can access services at a click, the nation operates with efficiency and equity, reinforcing resilience against external shocks.

Perhaps the most vital ingredient is a shift in mindset. Self-reliance does not mean isolation; it means partnership—between government and citizen, urban and rural, large firms and local artisans. We must celebrate “Jugaad” innovation alongside structured R&D, traditional crafts alongside cutting-edge tech. Every entrepreneur, teacher, farmer, and engineer has a role in this grand symphony. Public campaigns, storytelling, and education can instill pride in locally made goods, from hand-woven textiles to health-tech devices. When every Indian believes in the power of “we,” the nation becomes an unstoppable force.

In the grand tapestry of our civilization, self-reliance is not a static state but an ever-evolving journey. By weaving together robust industry, sustainable agriculture, technological breakthroughs, renewable energy, human development, digital governance, and collaborative spirit, India can stand tall—resilient, prosperous, and free. Let us embark on this collective quest with lyrical zeal and steadfast determination, for the seeds we sow today will blossom into a garden of abundance for generations to come.

By: Omkar Dattatray

It seems that nature has been cruel with the inhabitants of Ramban but it actually is not so,as the God almighty is benevolent and kind to the people. But rather man is very cunning, greedy and selfish. Human beings are leaving no stone unturned to destroy nature’s bounty and natural resources and same has been the case in Ramban as here also man has manifested his cunningness and selfishness and he had cut trees, fell woods ,narrowed the rivers and rivulets’ ,encroached the banks of rivers and are trying to cultivate banks of the rivers and in this way man has tried his best to exploit and even destroy the nature and thus nature in its turn is teaching a lesson or two to the people for having destroyed fauna and flora and has thus revolted against the nature and the nature is thus resorting in excessive ,acute ,incessant rainfall ,snow in the higher reaches of Banihal ,Ramban and other mountainous places of Jammu and Kashmir. There are floods, flash floods, landslides and even fissures in the lands and also destroyed the houses, business establishments and even the loss of several precious human lives. The national highway at many places in Ramsoo and Ramban has suffered massive and unprecedented scale of landslides putting the passengers to great inconvenience and many passengers have come back to Jammu and Srinagar from the half way. The national Highway connecting Kashmir to Jammu is a most crucial road network .It is really the lifeline of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. But it also has not been spared by the cunning and selfish man and he has even encroached upon it and the bad and adverse consequences are

following and man has become victim of his own follies ,carelessness and ruthlessness and there should be no surprise about it as the nature has to punish wrong doers of the nature’s bounty and scarce resources. Extreme heat, excessive and intense rainfall along with gusty winds are the offshoots of global warming and people are experiencing and suffering troubles and inconveniences but all because of their follies and wrongs. We should revere and respect wild-life and natural environment, but here we are lacking and the disasters are before our eyes. There has also been loss of several lives as 5 people have been killed in flash floods triggered by cloudburst and the only connection between Jammu and Kashmir the national highway has been badly damaged and thus resulted in closure of the much important link between the two capital cities in the Region. The flash floods triggered by cloudburst in the early hours of Sunday caused much damage to Ramsoo-Banihal –Ramban stretch of the highway forcing the authorities to close the traffic on the highway. It resulted in the passengers being stranded and hundreds of the people have been rescued and taken to safe destinations. Many people are feared missing and the police is on the job to find them. The flush floods have wreck havoc in Ramban and left a trail of destruction across Ramban district .Several residential houses have been destroyed and a large number of taxis ,buses and loaded trucks were buried under the debris carried by flash floods. The 270Km vital Jammu-Srinagar highway has been washed away at several places in Ramban-Ramsoo –Banihal has been buried under landslides ,leaving hundreds of vehicles and their passengers stranded at different

places .A cloudburst struck Seri Bagna village in Ramban district ,killing three people. More than 40 houses have been destroyed in the Dharam Kund village of Ramban due to flash floods. Several vehicles were washed away in the floods. Electricity supply was badly damaged and Ramban plunged into darkness ,however efforts are on to resume the electricity. Many people were marooned and the district administration and the security forces have lifted marooned people from flood water. The road and electricity supply has been severally damaged putting people to lot of trouble. There was hailstorm ,multiple landslides and fast winds throughout the night in the Ramban region including the areas surrounding the Ramban town was the observation of MOS,PMO ,Dr Jitendra Singh who happens to the MP from this Udhampur-Doda constituency. Meanwhile chief minister Omar and LG Manoj Sinha have grieved over the deaths of the innocent lives and have asked the district administration to provide all possible help, relief and rehabilitation to the affected people of Ramban and its surrounding villages. The incessant rain also triggered landslides and mudslides at nearly dozen places between Nashri and Banihal along the strategic Jammu-Srinagar National Highway prompting traffic authorities to suspend traffic. More than 100 trapped villagers were rescued by the police personnel who rushed to the spot despite downpour and cloudbursts. Several vehicles were washed away in the floods caused by stream overflowing. There has been massive damage in the entire district due to heavy rain, cloudbursts, high-velocity winds, landslides and hailstorm. A stretch of the national highway near Panthiyal was also

swept away. Over two hundred houses were damaged some partially and some totally. Heavy rains have wrecked havoc in Ramban district and at some places in Reasi district. Many villages were displaced and their houses stand partially and several totally damaged and there is much loss to the government and private property.The landslide also hit the Sham Palace area of Ramban following heavy downpour. Several people and vehicles were feared trapped under the debris of damaged structures. Some people also took shelter at the rooftops of their houses amid the flood like situation. Jammu and Kashmir LG Manoj Shina has expressed anguish and grief on the loss of lives in flash floods in Ramban ,which were triggered by incessant rains in the hilly district which lies on the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway. Man is helpless on the nature’s fury and he has no control over it. All that is required is that man should stop damaging ecological and environmental balance and in the alternative be ready to face the wrath of nature. Almighty is benevolent ,merciful and Kind but brings havoc when selfish and cunning human beings play with nature and destroy it and in turn are destroyed by the nature which becomes cruel because of the wanton destruction of the woods, jungles, rivers and riv-eluts. Oh merciful have mercy on us and save us from the vagaries of nature! It is hoped that God may accept our request and stop further damage to the national highway which is the only link between Kashmir and the rest of India.

*(The author is a columnist, social, KP activist &Freelancer)*

Sensibly the Path of Reliving of Nature

By: Vijay Garg

The global economic progress has risen five times in the last five decades, but more than 70 per cent of the earth’s natural resources were harnessed more than their capacity to reach here. The result is that the existence of the earth has come into a crisis.

Repeated warnings are required that this universe has many galacities, and our Galaxy also has billions of planets, but only the Earth in them, where life is possible. Earth is the only planet in the solar system, where water is available on the surface and which is helpful in the existence of life. In the near future none of our other refuge than the Earth.

Probably for the same reason for the World Environment Day of the year 2022, the theme of the first Environment Day of 5th June 1974 was ‘Only One Earth’-only one earth to repeat. While in 1974 it has hardly been said that nature is in emergency, these warnings began to be heard everywhere by 2022. Human needs and greed have gripped the earth in three main crises-climate crisis, loss of nature and biodiversity and increasing heaps of pollution and waste.

More than half of the coral rocks have been destroyed in Wetland and seas in the last hundred years. So much plastic is reaching in the seas that by 2050 there can be more plastic

than fish there. It was the theme of the 2021 meaning Day only to wake up condolences to the earth and improve this deteriorating balance: ‘Refine your earth’. The theme of April 2022 is ‘Invest in Your Planet’, Earth Day 2020’s ‘Activation on Climate’ and the theme of 2019 was ‘Protect Your Species’.

The duration of the year 2021-2030 has been declared by the United Nations as the ‘Decade of Ecosystem Restoration’, i.e. ecosystem restoration decade. It continues with efforts to bring fresh water, marine ecosystem and land based ecosystem to a position like never before. It also has an important role of land use change. All these efforts were concluded that on June 5, 2022, once again, be returned to the theme of ‘Only One Earth?’.

The main cause of crisis for earth and humanity is- continuous consumption and non-continuous production system. This problem is increasing with population growth. On the other hand, biodiversity is decreasing rapidly. So far, 65 per cent of the wild animals have expired. This is why on the 2022 World Environment Day, it was also called upon to adopt a sustainable and eco-friendly lifestyle and live in harmony with the earth. To awaken the sense of this harmony it is necessary that we place ourselves in the place of the earth and think that what is happening with some earth and nature, if the

same was happening to us, how would we feel?

The sensitive courts and judicial institutions are now declaring nature or any part of it as a legally living human and also giving orders to protect their rights. However, governments succeed in repealing such orders over time. At times, the voices raised in the interest of the environment and the earth attempt to weaken them by calling them anti-growth. It is also undeniable that efforts to reduce earth loss are also taking place. For instance, dams are being removed in Europe. 239 dams were removed in 17 countries in Europe in the year 2021.

On the International Biodiversity Day on May 22, 2021, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres had said: ‘We have kept a war tease against nature, while we should have been his protector so far.’ Nature gives us life, opportunity, services and solutions, but we destroyed his biodiversity and put obstacles in climate balance. Healthy earth is essential to achieve the sustainable development goals of the UN. Otherwise, the situation is that 90 percent of the population is forced to breathe in polluted air.

Anxiety has been expressed for the last fifty years over the effects of human falling to earth. The UN’s first environmental conference held in Stockholm in the year 1972 was focused on

‘natural environment, but not on ‘human environment’. The same conference decided that the World Environment Day will be celebrated on June 5 every year. Two years later, the first Environment Day was celebrated with the slogan ‘Only Ek Prithvi Hai’.

Today there is a need for governments, society and every person to introspect what they have done in the interest and uninterest of the earth. If we help nature to be revived by ourselves, that too will be the service of the earth. Rivers, sky and wildlife were automatically clean-lived due to human activities stalled in the early days of the Corona period. Special projects were not run, just human intervention was reduced. Animals and birds, fishes and other creatures had returned to the routes that we had taken away from them.

Earth is so our shared home. Human beings should ask themselves what will happen to the earth in which biodiversity will not survive?

*(Vijay Garg Retired Principal Educational Columnist Street Kour Chand MHR Malout Punjab)*







## On Earth Day, celebs underline the need for sustainable ways to save the environment

From no use of plastic to home fertiliser to planting greens, celebrities have their own special ways to contribute towards the environment. Looking at a future that is both sustainable and suitable, on Earth Day they talk about what can be done to save the planet

Ban plastic  
Anupama Solanki

I have five-six used phones that are not working and I am going to recycle them this time on Earth Day. In our housing society, we are collecting wet and dry waste separately, so it helps Mumbai BMC. However, there is still no solution for plastic. I think the government should ban plastic items and create some other options.

Green thumb

Gulfam Khan Husaain  
I love plants, I propagate them and if I find a plant someone has discarded because it has wilted, I get it home and try to revive it. I'm very conscious about wet and dry garbage segregation, I avoid plastic bags as much as I can



and recycle food waste as a fertiliser by making compost out of it. Being a plant-lover is not sufficient, it is important to teach children too. They are good listeners, fabulous learners and curious. So, you can teach them how to plant different seeds and make it like a fun project.

Go for bamboo bags

Muskaan Agarwal  
I don't use plastic items at all. Even if I have a party at my place, I

use disposable cups or plates, which are eco-friendly. One gets garbage bags for wet and dry waste. I use tea dust as fertiliser for my plants. While grocery shopping, I use only cloth bags. I believe there should be a total ban on plastic bags, rather bamboo should be preferred. The government should make bamboo bags affordable for vegetable vendors. These little things can make a big

change. Plastic items are really harmful for Mother Earth.

Green fertiliser  
Shivangi Verma

I really don't like using plastic bags. Instead, I opt for cloth bags whenever I go shopping. Plus, I've found a great way to handle kitchen waste—I use it as fertiliser for plants. This helps us avoid harmful pesticides and gives the plants valuable nutrients, making them healthier

overall.

Plant a tree  
Neel Samarthh

There's a lot of gratitude that I have for Mother Earth. We have a lot of plants at home, though I don't have a balcony! Whenever, wherever, we can, we should encourage people to go for plants. Recycling water is a great idea. We should not be wasting too much water and learn how we can conserve it. I don't use plastic bags at all. I think on our birthdays, we should plant a tree and it's a sweet message we should give to everyone!

Small actions  
Chitra Vakil Sharma

For me, making sure the Earth stays happy isn't just about doing major stuff; it's those small actions that really count. Things like remembering to turn off the tap, planting trees and looking after the ones already growing. These might seem small, but they add up and make a big difference in keeping our planet healthy.

## Aamir Khan's big plans for dream project Mahabharat: Might need multiple filmmakers



Bollywood superstar, Aamir Khan, has long expressed his desire to adapt the Indian epic, Mahabharat, for the big screen. Based on a recent interview with Aamir Khan, it seems the actor-producer might be getting closer to putting things in motion. The superstar shared that he will start working on his dream project this year.

In a recent interaction with agency, Aamir revealed that he plans to start work on the Mahabharat this year. The actor said he will also be producing the

film under his banner. When asked about the project, Aamir said, "I'm hoping to start work on it this year."

Aamir added that the film will be made in multiple parts, similar to the Lord of the Rings franchise. However, he clarified that the writing process alone will take several years. "It will take a while because the writing process will take a few years," he explained.

Aamir further shared that he hasn't decided whether he will act in the film. The team will take a call on casting based

on what suits each character. "We'll see who we should cast based on who's appropriate for which part," he noted.

"I don't think you can tell Mahabharat in one film, so it will be multiple films. I am looking at the large scale. It's too early to say, but we may need multiple directors," Aamir said, while admitting the monumental scale of Mahabharat.

On the work front, Aamir Khan was last seen in the 'Laal Singh Chaddha', a remake of the Hollywood classic 'Forrest Gump', which was released in theatres in 2022. After the film failed to make a mark at the box office, Aamir took a small break before working on his upcoming project 'Sitaare Zameen Par'.

'Sitaare Zameen Par' is a thematic sequel to his 2007 hit film 'Taare Zameen Par'. The film has been directed by RS Prasanna and stars Genelia Deshmukh opposite Aamir Khan. It has been produced by Aamir Khan and Kiran Rao and is scheduled to release in theatres on June 20.

## Singer Sonu Nigam warns of fake accounts on X, asks followers to report and block

Playback singer Sonu Nigam issued a warning to his followers about online impersonators and fake accounts in his name on X. The singer stated that he found many impersonators misusing his name to reach out to people. He cautioned people about such accounts and asked them to report and block the pages.

Nigam also added that he has not been on X for several years and thanked people for flagging the matter to him. "It has come to my attention that someone has been misusing my identity online (sic)," his message read on Instagram.

His statement also read, "Please note that no one from my team has ever reached out to anyone on my behalf for any reason. If someone claims to be from my management & contacts you out of the blue, please treat it with caution! (sic)."

Sonu Nigam also cleared the air about many fake accounts on X. "I have NOT been on Twitter/X for the last 8 years. A few accounts that people may believe to be mine, are actually being run by someone



else, often posting controversial things under my name," he wrote.

The singer asked his followers to 'report and block' such accounts. "Thank you to those who've flagged the issue to me. And thank you so much my extended family for your continued support and understanding (sic)," he concluded his statement.

Of late, many social media accounts of

celebrities have been hacked and misused for carrying out cryptocurrency scams. A few weeks ago, singer Shreya Ghoshal's account was hacked. Later, she retrieved her account after getting in touch with the support team. Similarly, actors Khushbu, Lakshmi Manchu and several accounts have fallen prey to hacking in the past few months.

## Priyanka Setia: Hurts when influencers are cast based on social media numbers

Actor Priyanka Setia has been nervous and excited ever since her latest project, 'Khauf', released on Friday. While she trusts the material and is 'happy' to have played such a strong part, given that she's never done anything like this, it is also giving her jitters. In an exclusive chat with India Today, Priyanka further spoke about how the competition today is not just with fellow actors but also influencers. And while it hurts to see them being cast in big projects, she added that they also work hard to achieve the kind of popularity they have.

"I am really looking forward to getting some interesting roles, and in genres that I haven't tried before. I really hope 'Khauf' opens new doors for me. As of now, casting directors have shown faith in me, but I don't think filmmakers know me well yet. I truly wish that they do soon, and the industry will start accepting me and giving me the kind of work I have been looking for," Priyanka shared.

Coming from a family of doctors in Bareilly, the actor started her career as an air hostess. She realised that acting was her true calling,



and moved to Mumbai from Delhi after lying to her parents. The actor started doing theatre and bagged her first major outing with actor Makrand Deshpande. She also trained under Pankaj Kapur, an experience that she feels changed her outlook towards the craft.

While many artists feel it's important to 'train' before you enter the industry, it's also a popular belief that you need to be 'good-looking' to be an actor. Discussing the same, Priyanka

documenting every bit of it. I would never buy followers or become an influencer. However, conversations have started in the industry about how every actor today also has to be a content creator. But where does one stop? What is this game? I am someone who believes that their work should talk for itself," she said.

The actor added that, however, she understands that content creation is also not an easy job. "They also work hard, it's not easy. And if their field of work is giving them this kind of popularity, that's great. If it were up to me, I could also experiment with social media, but I would do something like a poetry reading session. It's all about what one wants to do, and I am no one to decide for others. "But I always wonder how much access I give to people, or how much do I indulge," Priyanka added.

When asked if seeing people with social media following being cast ever affected her, the actor said, "Absolutely, I would be enraged earlier, and also hurt, especially if there was mediocre work. If someone far talented takes your place, you feel

motivated to do better. However, I realised there's no point being upset about it. Also, no one has stopped us from being on social media. An influencer can tell me that I am not stopping you from entering my zone, so why do you have a problem? The issue is that, in our country, not many watch plays in the theatre, but everyone is hooked on Instagram. So, how do I blame filmmakers?"

Priyanka Setia added that to avoid negativity seeping in, she started directing and acting. And while she's taken a break from helming commercials, given the interference of agencies, she has found a penchant for words. Having already written 'Khalabali Records' (JioCinema), she is now writing a play, which she plans to soon take on stage.

"I was writing for a few production houses, but now I am working on another web series. Once done, I will get to pitching it to platforms. It's important to keep your mind busy with other avenues, given how this profession works. I am glad that writing does bring me joy," the actor concluded.

## Punjab man calls Mumbai cops, informs them about 'death threat' to actor Tiger Shroff; held

A 35-year-old man hailing from Punjab has been apprehended for allegedly giving false information to the police control room in Mumbai regarding 'death threat' to Bollywood actor Tiger Shroff, an official said on Tuesday.

According to the Khar police station official, the man, identified as Manish Kumar Sujinder Singh, falsely claimed that a weapon and 'supari' (contract) of Rs 2 lakh were given to some individuals to bump off the 35-year-old actor.

On Monday, the Mumbai police control room received a call from Singh, who hails from Punjab, informing them that some people from a security agency were going to "kill" Shroff, he said.

However, after the police investigated the



matter, it was revealed Singh had given false information to the control room, according to the official.

The Mumbai police lodged a case against him in suburban Khar and contacted their Punjab counterparts, who detained Singh, he said.

The accused is being brought to Mumbai, informed the official.

In the past, Bollywood superstar Salman Khan has been the target of multiple death threats. Last week, a 'mentally unstable' man from a village in Gujarat's Vadodara district had issued a death threat to the 59-year-old actor, a Y-Plus-protectee.

The threat message was received on the Mumbai Traffic Police's WhatsApp helpline.

## Twilight star Kristen Stewart marries Dylan Meyer



Actress Kristen Stewart and screenwriter Dylan Meyer exchanged wedding vows during an intimate ceremony at

their Los Angeles home. The couple obtained their marriage license earlier in the week before saying 'I do' in front of family and friends, including pal Ashley Benson. This development comes over three years after Stewart confirmed her engagement to Meyer.

In an earlier interview, Stewart had shared details about her proposal, "I wanted to be proposed to, so I think I very distinctly carved out what I wanted. And, you know, she nailed it. It was really cute. She did very well." Stewart had previously expressed her desire for a low-key wedding celebration. "I want to stay home. Like, I want to be in L.A. so everyone can come," she said.



# Every word spoken by constitutional functionary guided by national interest: Dhankhar

NEW DELHI, Apr 22 (Agencies): Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Tuesday asserted that every word spoken by a constitutional authority is guided by supreme national interest, as he hit out at his critics for questioning his remarks on a recent Supreme Court order.

Dhankhar also said that efforts of forces working against the country to tarnish and run down institutions should be neutralised, “be it that of the presidency”.

Asserting that Parliament is supreme, Dhankhar said, “There is no visualisation in the Constitution of any authority above Parliament. Parliament is supreme... Let me tell you, it is as supreme as every individual in the country.”

A top court bench recently prescribed a three-month timeline for the president of India to decide on Bills reserved by governors for her nod.

Reacting to the directive, Dhankhar had said that the judiciary cannot play the role of a “super Parliament” and get into the domain of the executive.

Addressing a Delhi University event, he said every word spoken by a constitutional functionary is guided by the supreme sublime interest of the nation.

“I find it conceivably intriguing that some have recently reflected that constitutional



offices can be ceremonial or ornamental. Nothing can be far distanced from a wrong understanding of the role of everyone in this country — constitutional functionary or a citizen,” he said.

Stating that everyone of them has a role, he said, “The soul of democracy resides and pulsates in every citizen. Democracy will blossom. Its values will get heightened. When citizen is alert, citizen contributes and what a citizen contributes, there is no substitute for that.”

Dhankhar also said that there is no visualisation in the Constitution of any authority above Parliament.

“Part of ‘We the People’ is an atom in democracy and that atom has atomic power. That atomic power is reflected during elections and that is why we are a democratic nation,” Dhankhar, who is also the Rajya Sabha chairperson, underlined.

Voicing concern over the recent Supreme Court ruling prescribing a timeline for the president to decide on Bills, Dhankhar on Friday said India had not bargained for a democracy where judges will legislate and perform executive functions and act as a “super Parliament”.

Earlier this month, the Supreme Court had, for the first time, prescribed that the President should decide on the Bills reserved for her consideration by governors within three months from the date such reference is received.

“There is a directive to the president by a recent judgement... We never bargained for democracy for this day. President being called upon to decide in a time-bound manner, and if not, becomes law,” Dhankhar said.

The vice-president was criticised for questioning the judiciary, with critics terming his

remarks “unconstitutional”.

In an apparent response to Dhankhar’s “super Parliament” remark, a top court bench on Monday said that “as it is, we are alleged of encroaching upon the parliamentary and executive functions”.

Justice B R Gavai, who was heading a bench also comprising Justice Augustine George Masih, made a similar observation in another matter.

While one matter was over the recent violence in West Bengal during anti-Waqf law protests, the other plea sought a direction to the Centre to take appropriate steps to prohibit streaming of sexually explicit and pornographic content on OTT and social media platforms.

While hearing the plea on online content, Justice Gavai said, “Who can control it? It is for the Union (government) to frame a regulation in that regard.”

Gavai is set to be the next chief justice of India.

In a related development, Rajya Sabha MP Kapil Sibal on Tuesday said everything the apex court said was consistent with the country’s constitutional values and guided by national interest.

Sibal’s remarks in a post on X came soon after Dhankhar asserted that every word spoken by a constitutional functionary was guided by supreme national interest.

# Verdict on Tamil Nadu Bills doesn’t cover issues raised by Kerala government against Governor: Centre to SC



NEW DELHI, Apr 22 (Agencies): The verdict granting “deemed assent” to 10 Tamil Nadu bills didn’t cover the issues raised by Kerala Government against the state Governor allegedly sitting over bills passed by the state Assembly, the Centre asserted before the Supreme Court on Tuesday.

“The Tamil Nadu judgment does not cover certain issues of this (Kerala) case on facts. We would like to show those differences,” Attorney General R Venkataramani told a Bench of Justice PS Narasimha and Justice Joymalya Bagchi.

There were certain “factual differences” between the two cases, Venkataramani submitted.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the Kerala Governor’s office, supported the Attorney General. “I am examining the judgment,” Mehta said, seeking time to revert.

The submissions of the two top law officers came after senior counsel KK Venugopal submitted on behalf of the Kerala Government that the judgement delivered by a Bench headed by Justice JB Pardiwala in the Tamil Nadu case has framed guidelines and set timelines for governors and the President on granting assent to

Bills.

“The matter is covered by the recent judgment. The issue is what is the time limit for reference to the President. That’s held to be three months based on a circular issued by the Government of India,” Venugopal told the Bench.

The Bench agreed to take up on May 6 the Kerala Government’s petitions against the state’s Governor over the delay in approving Bills passed by the state Assembly.

“We will look into that judgement and see whether issues raised here are covered,” Justice Narasimha said, posting the matter for hearing on May 6.

The top court had earlier issued notices to the Union Ministry of Home Affairs and the secretaries of Kerala Governor on the Kerala Government’s petitions alleging that the then Governor Arif Mohammed Khan referred certain Bills to President Droupadi Murmu — which still remained pending.

In a landmark verdict, the Supreme Court had on April 8 set aside Tamil Nadu Governor RN Ravi’s decision to withhold assent for 10 Bills, reserving them to the President even after they were re-enacted by the state Assembly, terming it “illegal and erroneous”.

A Bench led by Jus-

tice JB Pardiwala had declared that the 10 bills would be deemed to have received the Governor’s assent when they were presented to him for the second time after having been passed by the state legislature again.

The Bench — which also included Justice R Mahadevan — had set a three-month deadline for the President to decide on Bills reserved by Governors for her assent.

It had also said that the President should obtain the advisory opinion of the top court on Bills referred to her “by way of a reference under Article 143 and act in accordance with the same to dispel any apprehensions of bias, arbitrariness or mala fides.”

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar has openly criticised the top court’s verdict on Tamil Nadu Bills and the Centre was likely to seek a review of the judgment.

Ruling that Governors don’t have discretion while exercising powers under Article 200 of the Constitution in dealing with bills passed by state Assemblies presented to them, the Supreme Court had said that they must abide by the advice of the Council of Ministers.

“Once the Bill is passed by the state legislature and presented to the Governor for assent, he must act on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers as a general rule and only in exceptional situations... should he reserve it for the consideration of the President,” Justice Pardiwala had said while deciding on Tamil Nadu Government’s petition against the Governor for sitting over Bills.

# Mamta Banerjee blames “outsiders” for Murshidabad violence, plans to visit in May

KOLKATA, Apr 22 (Agencies): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday asserted that “outsiders” were responsible for the violence that erupted in parts of Murshidabad over the Waqf Act, and said she would visit the troubled areas in the first week of May to evaluate the situation.

Ms Banerjee also said her government would “soon expose the conspirators” behind the riots that took place in

two wards of Dhulian in the district.

“The violence was unfortunate. We do not want riots. Some outsiders orchestrated it, but we will expose them and their conspiracy,” she said at an administrative programme in Midnapore.

“I have promised the families of those killed in the violence to give a compensation of Rs 10 lakh each. We will also rebuild their houses under the ‘Banglar Bari’

scheme... I will be going there in the first week of May and evaluate the situation,” Ms Banerjee said.

Governor C V Ananda Bose had on April 19 met family members of a man and his son, who were killed during violence over anti-Waqf (Amendment) Act protests in Murshidabad district, and assured them of all possible support.

At least three people, including a father and



son, died and over 280 have been arrested in

connection with the violence earlier this month.

# 8 killed, 6 injured as SUV falls off bridge onto riverbed in MP’s Damoh district

DAMOH, Apr 22 (Agencies): Eight persons were killed and six others sustained injuries after an SUV fell off a bridge onto a dry river bed in Madhya Pradesh’s Damoh district on Tuesday, police said.

The accident occurred near Simri village under the Nohata police station area around 11 am, an official said.

Superintendent of Police (SP) Shruti Kirti Somwanshi said the SUV driver lost control over the wheels, and the vehicle fell off the bridge onto the dry riverbed of the Sunar river.

He said eight of the occupants died, and six others sustained injuries.

The official said the victims were part of a group of residents from Jabalpur district who were travelling in two SUVs



from Ghat Pipariya village in Damoh, and one of the vehicles met with an accident.

He said the injured persons were sent to the district hospital for treatment.

# ‘Highly condemnable’: Mayawati flags atrocities against Dalits on Ambedkar Jayanti

LUCKNOW, Apr 22 (Agencies): Bahujan Samaj Party chief Mayawati on Tuesday expressed concern over the alleged incidents of atrocities against Dalits and desecration of statues of their icons, warning that if strict action is not taken against the offenders, the affected communities will never forgive the authorities.

In a post on X, the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) supremo said, “During the birth anniversary celebrations of Bharat Ratna and Constitution-maker



Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar, incidents of desecration of his statues and attacks by feudal elements on rallies and programmes in several states were extremely shameful. These events exposed

the double standards of the governments.”

Referring specifically to the violence in Madhya Pradesh’s Morena district, Mayawati termed the killing of a Dalit youth reportedly during an Ambedkar

Jayanti procession and the injuries sustained by several others “highly condemnable”.

Alleging that the lack of strict action against the culprits raises questions about the role of the state government, Mayawati said, “The government’s complicity in the matter cannot be ruled out.” She also urged both the Centre and all state governments to take these incidents with utmost seriousness.

“If strict measures are not taken to stop the atrocities against Dalits and to prevent the dis-

respect of their great saints, gurus and icons, these communities will never forgive the authorities,” she warned.

“These caste-based incidents make it clear that the programmes organised by the central and state governments on occasions like Ambedkar Jayanti are nothing but a deceptive move to woo Dalit voters,” she alleged.

She also appealed to Dalits to stay alert and not fall for the “double-faced character and tactics” of such political parties.

# Trainer aircraft crashes in Gujarat’s Amreli district, pilot killed

Plane fell on a tree before crashing into an open plot

AMRELI, Apr 22 (Agencies): A trainee pilot was killed when a trainer aircraft belonging to a private aviation academy crashed in a residential area in Gujarat’s Amreli district on Tuesday afternoon and caught fire, a police official said.

The plane fell on a tree before crashing into an open plot.

The aircraft crash-landed

into a residential area in the Giriya Road area of Amreli town at around 12:30 pm due to unknown reasons, killing the trainee pilot on the spot, said Amreli Superintendent of Police, Sanjay Kharat.

The pilot was flying solo. The aircraft had taken off from the Amreli airport, he added.

After it crashed near Shastri Nagar area, the plane



caught fire and engulfed in flames, said Kharat.

“After taking off from the Amreli airport with a male trainee pilot, the trainer aircraft of an aviation academy, which operates from the airport, crashed into a residential area.

The trainee pilot, who was flying solo, died in the crash while the aircraft was gutted in flames. No one else was

injured in the accident,” said Kharat.

He said a Delhi-based aviation academy provides pilot training from the Amreli airport.

The SP said local police have started the process to lodge a case of accidental death and investigation to find out the exact cause of the crash.

Four teams of local fire

brigade rushed to Shastri-nagar upon learning about the plane crash and resultant fire in the aircraft, said fire officer SC Gadhi.

“Though the plane crashed into a residential area, no one else was injured because it first fell on a tree and then crashed into an open plot. The fire was eventually brought under control by our teams,” he said.



## Australia Election: Early voting begins as Albanese takes lead over Dutton

*Early voting has begun in Australia's federal election, with PM Albanese's Labor holding a slim lead over Peter Dutton's conservatives, as Dutton faces criticism over Trump-style policies.*

CANBERRA, Apr 22 (Agencies): Early voting in the Australian election began on Tuesday, with Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's centre-left Labor party holding a slim lead over the conservative opposition coalition.

A steady increase in early and postal voting means as many as half of eligible Australians will cast their ballots before the May 3 election date, according to data from the country's election commission.

The beginning of voting coincides with a slump in popularity of the opposition Liberal Party leader Peter Dutton, who has struggled to shake off perceived ideological closeness to U.S. President Donald Trump.

Dutton was forced to abandon a policy that would have required federal government



workers to return to the office full time while cutting tens of thousands of public sector jobs, seen as taking inspiration from Trump and his Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), set up by Elon Musk.

Albanese has surged in the polls from a deficit of six points

against Dutton's conservative coalition as recently as January to a lead of as much as nine points earlier this month.

Polling from Newspoll released on Sunday showed Labor held a four-point lead over the opposition when votes from smaller parties are redistributed as

part of the country's preferential voting system where voters rank their choices.

"There's no complacency from my camp, I assure you of that," Albanese told a press conference.

"This election is certainly up for grabs."

He pointed to the 2019 federal election, when some betting firms paid out early on a Labor victory, in an election that was ultimately won by Liberal leader Scott Morrison.

Campaigning in the election, where voting is compulsory for Australians over 18, is expected to be subdued on Tuesday following the death of Pope Francis.

Dutton and Albanese are due to meet in a third and final televised election debate on Tuesday evening.

## Gaza rescuers say seven killed in Israeli air strikes



GAZA, Apr 22 (Agencies): Gaza's civil defence agency said Tuesday that seven people were killed in fresh Israeli air strikes across the Hamas-run territory.

"The occupation launched violent air strikes on Gaza City and the towns of Beit Lahia, Beit Hanoun, and Khan Yunis, killing seven civilians," civil

defence spokesman Mahmoud Bassal told agency.

Four people were killed in the Al-Rimal area near Gaza City, two in Al-Sabra west of Gaza City and one in Khan Yunis.

"The occupation also destroyed more than 10 homes east of Gaza City and in Rafah," he added.

The Israeli military,

which did not immediately comment, has intensified its aerial bombardments and expanded its ground operations in the Gaza Strip since it resumed its offensive in the besieged Palestinian territory on March 18.

Gaza's civil defence agency on Monday accused the Israeli military of carrying out "summary executions" in the killing of 15 rescue workers last month, rejecting the findings of an internal probe by the army.

At least 1,691 people have been killed in Gaza since the military resumed its offensive, bringing the total death toll since the war erupted to at least 51,065, according to the health ministry in Hamas-run Gaza.

## Passenger truck falls into a ravine in southern Pakistan, killing at least 13

MULTAN, Apr 22 (Agencies): A speeding truck carrying laborers, women and children fell into a ravine in southern Pakistan, killing at least 13 people and injuring 20 others, police said Tuesday.

The road accident occurred overnight in Jamshoro district in southern Sindh province, city police chief Saddique Chandra told reporters.

Hospital officials said some of the injured were in critical condition.

According to local



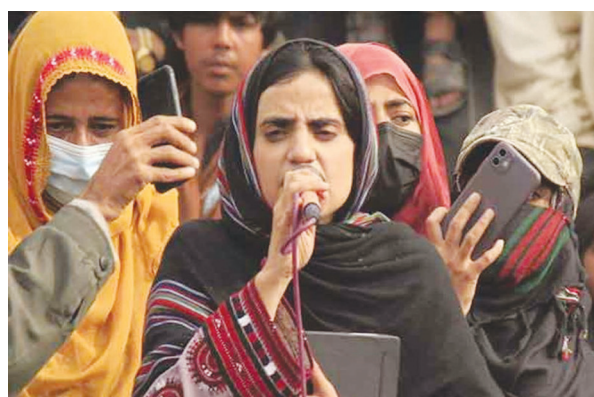
media, the accident happened as dozens of laborers were returning to their homes in Sindh's Badin district after harvesting wheat in the southwestern

province of Balochistan. Road accidents are common in Pakistan, where highways and roads are poorly maintained and traffic laws are widely ignored.

## UN to review detention of Baloch activist Mahrang Baloch

GENEVA, Apr 22 (Agencies): The case of Baloch human rights activist Dr Mahrang Baloch has been officially accepted for review by the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, as reported by agency.

The case was submitted by Kurtulus Bastimar, an international legal advisor representing Dr Baloch. He confirmed the development in a statement on social media. "I am glad to inform you that the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention is going to start examining the individual application that I submitted on behalf of my client Mah-



rang Baloch," he said in a post on X, as reported by agency.

Bastimar mentioned that he would head to Geneva to communicate directly with UN agencies concerning the case.

Dr Mahrang Baloch, who serves as the main

organiser for the Baloch Yakehti Committee (BYC), was apprehended a month prior while participating in a peaceful sit-in protest in Quetta. She faces charges under Pakistan's anti-terrorism legislation, which includes accusations of sedition

and murder. Human rights groups have labelled these charges as "politically motivated" and have demanded her immediate release, as reported by agency.

Demonstrations and sit-ins took place throughout Balochistan, including in Turbat, Gwadar, Khuzdar, and various other regions. UN human rights experts have previously raised concerns regarding her detention and the wider crackdown on political dissent in the area. The UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention looks into cases of supposed unlawful detention and is empowered to request information

from governments.

This review of the case is regarded as a pivotal development in raising global awareness about human rights abuses in Balochistan.

Basic rights such as freedom of speech, political expression, and access to education are frequently suppressed. Military operations in Balochistan have led to widespread displacement and fear. Despite repeated calls from human rights organisations, the plight of the Baloch remains largely ignored, fueling frustration, resentment, and a growing demand for justice and autonomy.

## Islamist leader killed in Israeli strike south of Beirut: official

BEIRUT, Apr 22 (Agencies): A military leader of Jamaa Islamiya, a Lebanese Islamist group allied with Palestinian group Hamas, was killed Tuesday in an Israeli strike south of Beirut, a security official told agency.

According to the Lebanese Civil Defence, "an Israeli drone targeted a car" near the coastal town of Damour, about 20 kilometres south of Beirut, and rescuers recovered a man's body from the vehicle.

The security official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the strike killed Hussein Atoui, a leader of Jamaa Islamiya's

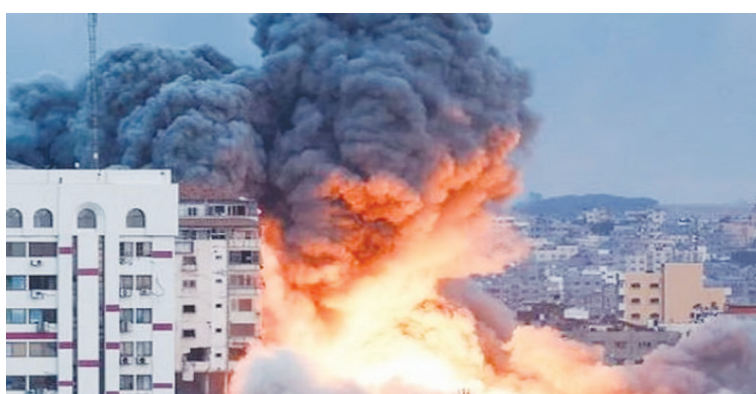
armed wing, the Al-Fajr Forces.

The group is closely linked to both Hamas and Lebanon's Hezbollah.

It has claimed responsibility for multiple attacks against Israel during more than a year of cross-border hostilities, including two months of all out war, before a November ceasefire.

Israel has regularly carried out strikes since the truce came into effect, and two unclaimed rocket attacks from Lebanon targeting Israel were reported on March 22 and 28.

The Lebanese army announced last week that it had



arrested several Lebanese and Palestinians responsible for the shooting, which a security official said included three Hamas

members.

Israel said it killed two senior members of Hezbollah in a series of air strikes.

## Vatican announces funeral for Pope Francis on Saturday

VATICAN CITY, Apr 22 (Agencies): The body of the late Pope Francis will be transferred to St. Peter's Basilica on April 23 to lie in state until his funeral on Saturday morning, the Vatican announced on Tuesday.

The Vatican has also released images of Pope Francis in an open coffin, dressed in a red robe with the papal mitre on his head and a rosary in his hand. The pictures were taken in the chapel of the Casa Santa Marta, Pope Francis's residence at the Vatican.

The Holy See Press Office announced today that Pope Francis' funeral Mass will take place on Saturday, April 26 at 10:00 AM in St. Peter's Square, the open ground in front of St Peter's Basilica. Cardinals had met this morning to decide on the date of the funeral.

The dean of the College of Cardinals, Giovanni Battista Re, will lead the funeral service. At the end of the funeral, Cardinal Re will deliver the final commendation—a concluding prayer in which the Pope will be formally entrusted to God—and the body will be moved to St. Mary Major for burial.

On Wednesday, the coffin containing the Pope's body will be carried from the chapel of the Casa Santa Marta to St. Peter's Basilica for the faithful to pay their

respects, the Vatican said.

Cardinal Kevin Farrell, Camerlengo of the Holy Roman Church, will preside over the rite of translation on April 23, which will begin at 9:00 AM with a moment of prayer. The procession will pass through Santa Marta Square and the Square of the Roman Protomartyrs, according to the Holy See Press Office.

The procession will then exit through the Arch of the Bells into St. Peter's Square and enter the Vatican Basilica through the central door. At the Altar of the Confession, the Cardinal Camerlengo will preside over the Liturgy of the Word, at the conclusion of which the visits to the body of the Roman Pontiff will commence.

World leaders are likely to attend the funeral. U.S. President Donald Trump indicated on Monday that he and First Lady Melania Trump will attend the Pope's funeral at the Vatican.

"Melania and I will be going to the funeral of Pope Francis, in Rome," Trump posted on his social media platform Truth Social on Monday afternoon. "We look forward to being there!" He added: "He's a very good man who loved the world. And he especially loved people that were having a hard time. And that's good with me."

The Director of the Directorate of Health and Hygiene of the Vatican City State, Dr. Andrea Arcangeli had on Monday evening released the official medical report on the death of Pope Francis, which was confirmed through electrocardiographic thanatography.

According to the medical report, the 88-year-old Pope had a prior history of acute respiratory failure caused by multimicrobial bilateral pneumonia, multiple bronchiectases, high blood pressure, and Type II diabetes.

The rite of the certification of death and placement in the coffin took place on Monday evening at 8:00 PM in the chapel on the ground floor of the late Pope's residence in the Casa Santa Marta.

According to his wishes Pope Francis will be laid to rest in Rome's Basilica of St Mary and will become the first Pope in more than a century not to be buried in the Vatican, in the crypt of St Peter's Basilica.

He also requested to be buried in a simple wooden casket, unlike other Popes who were buried in the traditional three nesting coffins made of cypress, lead and oak.

Meanwhile, mourners from around the world continue to flow into St Peter's Square to pay their last respects.

## South Korea mulls "necessary facility" in Yellow Sea after China erects steel structure in disputed waters

SEOUL, Apr 22 (Agencies): South Korea is contemplating the establishment of a "necessary facility" in its overlapping territorial waters with China in the Yellow Sea as a response to Beijing's deployment of a steel structure in the region, as reported by agency.

Reports from South Korean media indicate that the structure, measuring 50 meters (164 feet) in both height and diameter, is the latest of three Chinese installations in the area. Beijing has asserted that all of the structures are intended for aquaculture.

"From the standpoint of safeguarding our maritime territory, we take this matter very seriously in terms of a proportional response," stated South Korea's oceans minister Kang Do-hyung, adding that the government must first determine "what type of facility is necessary at which level," as quoted by agency.



"We are lodging a strong protest with China through diplomatic means. We regard this issue with the highest seriousness, considering its significance and our commitment to protecting our maritime territory," Kang remarked, as cited by agency.

Kang made these comments following media reports suggesting that the disputed structure is an old oil rig previously used in the Middle East. The structure, which features a helipad, displays "Atlantic Amsterdam" on its surface, the name of an oil rig constructed by France in 1982.

The overlapping claims of South Korea and China over sections of the Yellow Sea are governed by a provisional measures zone (PMZ) designed to avert conflicts between the two nations. Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun reiterated that the structure was intended for aquaculture.

"China has provided relevant information and kept communication lines open with the ROK through channels such as the maritime affairs dialogue and cooperation mechanism. We hope the ROK will consider this matter objectively and rationally," he commented, as stated in the agency.

Notwithstanding the existing agreement, China has reportedly constructed several large steel structures, including two in April and May last year, and another this year, which has raised concerns in South Korea regarding potential territorial disputes.



# Earth Day 2025 celebrated at GDC Nagrota



## Top News Report

NAGROTA, Apr 22: Government Degree College (GDC) Nagrota marked Earth Day with enthusiasm and purpose, highlighting environmental responsibility under the global theme "Our Power, Our Planet." An oath-taking ceremony was organized by Eco club Sangrakshak of the College. Students pledged their dedication to sustainability through, committing to adopt eco-friendly practices in their daily lives.

the event was officially registered on [www.earthday.org](http://www.earthday.org), ensuring wider recognition and engagement with global Earth Day initiatives. A major focus of the celebration was solid waste segregation and plastic waste collection. Students actively participated in separating biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste, reinforcing the importance of responsible waste disposal. The plastic waste collection drive aimed to reduce environmental pollution, encouraging

proper recycling and disposal methods. Through these initiatives, GDC Nagrota demonstrated its unwavering commitment to protecting the planet and inspiring others to take action toward a greener future. Principal of the College Prof. Anjali Mahajan in her address highlighted the theme of shifting towards renewable energy and reducing reliance on fossil fuels. She further added that the goal is to triple clean electricity production by 2030.

# GDC Marheen celebrates Earth Day



## Top News Report

MARHEEN, Apr 22: The Eco Club and Department of Environmental Science of GDC Marheen in collaboration with Govt. High School Marheen celebrated Earth Day by organizing different activities like posters making on the theme "Importance of Earth Day" and QR were generated to drag the infor-

mation regarding the identification, medicinal property of a plant and open house discussion on the topic How to conserve Mother Earth in the College premises. The programme was organized under the patronage of Principal of the college Prof. (Dr.) Anupama Gupta. In her address, she highlighted that we all work together to save Earth, ease sufferings and lessen the

shattering economic and social consequences. Moreover, we must protect our planet from all the threats of climate disruption. The whole event was managed by Prof. Anoop Sharma (Convener, Eco Club) and Prof. Amitika (HOD, Department of EVS), Dr. Balbinder Singh, Dr. Munisha Devi, and Prof. Manu Saini (Members, Eco Club).

# Over 8.15 lakh people visited Tulip Garden

## Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 22: The Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden in Srinagar, Asia's largest tulip garden, will close for visitors on April 24, marking the end of another successful season. The garden, located in the foothills of the Zabarwan Range overlooking the Dal Lake, was thrown open to the public on March 26. The garden witnessed a record footfall this year, with over 8.15 lakh visitors in less than a month.

Of the total, around 66 percent were domestic tourists from across the country, nearly one percent were international travelers, while the rest comprised local residents. Officials said the surge in tourist arrivals reflects the growing popularity of the Tulip Garden as a major spring attraction in the Kashmir Valley. The bloom period typically lasts for about a month, depending on weather conditions. Every year, the garden draws thousands of visitors eager to witness the vibrant display of over a million tulips of different varieties and colors spread over 30 hectares.

affected families. "We will announce free ration from Jammu for the people who have suffered the most. I will prepare the documents for this as soon as possible. The deputy commissioner was asked to start a community kitchen for the people who have nothing to eat. We are also arranging water tankers," he said.

# 12 tourists injured in terror attack in Pahalgam

injured tourists were admitted there and the condition of all of them was stable. A little earlier, security forces rushed to Baisaran meadows in Pahalgam tourist town after sounds of gunfire were heard, a senior police official said here. The incident comes when Kashmir is witnessing a surge in tourist arrivals after reeling under militancy for years. Also, the 38-day Amarnath pilgrimage is scheduled to begin on July 3. Lakhs of pilgrims from across the country travel to the cave shrine from the twin routes — the traditional 48-km Pahalgam route in south Kashmir's Anantnag district and the 14-km shorter but steep Baltal route in Ganderbal district.

# Restoring traffic on Jammu-Srinagar highway within 24

# hours our priority: CM Omar

in the hilly district for the second day to assess the ground situation and to meet the affected families. "We have to keep in mind that rumours spread very fast here and so I do not want the people to start queuing outside petrol pumps (in Kashmir). That was the reason, I have asked the concerned department to send some fuel tankers through Mughal road to Kashmir to convey a message to the people that we have the means to deliver the supplies," he said. Asked whether he would raise the issue of massive hike in airfares to and from Kashmir after the highway closure, the chief minister said he had not paid attention to the matter yet. "We will fix the roads, and deliver relief and supplies to people. Then we will start paying attention to the issue of airfares," he said. Abdullah said his administration is doing a damage assessment and making arrangements to provide ration and water to the

# Ramban flash flood: Jammu-Srinagar highway closed for 3rd consecutive day

Bidhuri, divisional commissioner (Kashmir), has again appealed to people in the Valley not to indulge in panic buying as there are sufficient stocks of foodgrains and petroleum products to last for a fortnight. People have been mobbing filling stations across the Valley to buy petrol and diesel much beyond their daily requirement.

# GDC Paloura in collaboration with RMMC organize medical camp

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 22: Govt. Degree College Paloura in collaboration with RamaKrishna Mission Medical centre Jammu organised a Free Medical Camp under the guidance and supervision of Principal, Dr. Kulvinder Kour. She was pleased to announce the successful organization of a free medical camp at the College for students. The camp featured specialized team of doctors from Rama Krishan Mission Medical centre, Jammu who gave consultations and fee check up to students. The team included Dr. B D Sharma General Physician, Ex Director Health Department, Dr. Sudesh Gupta, specialist in Anorectal disorders, Dr. Twinkle Gupta, Ayurvedic Physician and



Panchkarma Specialist, Dr. Sheetal, Gynaecologist and Dr. Tanu Gandotra, Dentist and Dr. Poonam. The camp commenced with a formal welcome address of Dr. Sanjay Kotwal, Head Department of Zoology. Afterwards Principal, Dr. Kulvinder Kour highlighted the colleges commitment to fostering a holistic development of students. He expressed the institute's eagerness to

Environment extends beyond academic excellence. Swami Vijayeshananda Medical Incharge of Ramakrishna Mission Medical Centre Jammu noted that the recent medical camp serves as a testament to this commitment, emphasizing dedication to the health and well-being of its community. This initiative reflects institutions commitment to the well-being of its community, emphasizing the importance of accessible healthcare

continue such impactful initiatives in the future. Doctors from Ramakrishna Mission Medical Centre offered essential healthcare services to the campus students and the surrounding community. The medical camp was culminated with the formal vote of thanks by Dr. Vishal Magotra, Head of History Department of the college. The program was anchored by Suneha and Vivek, students of semester 6th. GDC Paloura remains dedicated to organizing more such initiatives in the future, fostering a healthy and supportive environment for its community.

services. The medical camp witnessed a significant turnout, with students expressing their gratitude for the convenience and care provided by the medical professionals. The Gynaecologist offered consultations on Women's health issues, while the Dentist provided dental check-ups and guidance on oral hygiene.

# GDC Mahanpur organizes Poshan Pakhwada valedictory programme

## Top News Report

MAHANPUR, Apr 22: The Department of Political Science at Government Degree College (GDC) Mahanpur organized the Poshan Pakhwada Valedictory Programme held from April 8 to 22, 2025 under the guidance of Dr. Sangeeta Sudan, Principal of the College. The event aimed to raise awareness about the importance of balanced nutrition and healthy dietary habits among students and faculty. An informative lecture delivered by Sheetal Bhadwal a semester 2nd student. Her presentation on "Poshan Pakhwada: Importance of a Balanced Diet" was well-received, as she elaborated on the essential components of a nutritious diet and its impact on physical and mental well-being. The Chief Guest of the programme, Principal Dr. Sangeeta Sudan, graced the occasion with her insightful speech. She stressed the importance of a balanced diet in maintaining good health, particularly for students, and encouraged everyone to adopt healthy eating habits. Her address was both motivational and educational, leaving a lasting impression on the students.

Dr. Yog Raj Sharma, HOD of Political Science, delivered the welcome address and vote of thanks to the Principal, Dr. Sangeeta Sudan, faculty members and students for making the event a great success and emphasizing the significance of Poshan Pakhwada in promoting a healthier society. The Poshan Pakhwada Valedictory Programme served as an excellent platform to educate the college community about nutrition and health, aligning with the national mission of "Swasth Bharat, Poshan Bharat." The staff members who were present in the Programme were Dr. Mohinder Nath Sharma, Dr. Nishu, Dr. Hilal Ahmed Bhat, Dr. Babli, Dr. Anju Bala, Dr. Suhail Ahmed Dar, Prof. Namita Trogia, Prof. Sameeksha Sharma. More than 70 students participated in the Programme.



# Students Union Leaf & Student Council of EJM College Calls on CEC, LAHDC Leh



## Top News Report

LEH, Apr 22: The Chairman/CEC, LAHDC Leh, Adv. Tashi Gyalson was called on by LEAF, Students Unions president Padma Stanzin and Student Council of Eliezer Joldan Memorial College, Leh. The delegation included Padma Stanzin, Chief Coordinator Leaf All Students' Unions; Stanzin Rigdol, Presi-

dent of the Students' Council EJM College; Vice Presidents Saraswati Roka and Stanzin Rangdol, and Executive Members Stanzin Chosgyal and Sonam Angmo. On behalf of the student body, the student Council extended gratitude to the CEC for his continued support so far, particularly for ensuring the successful celebration of Bhoti Day, the smooth execu-

tion of the removing unwarranted structure near EJM College gate initiative, and the recent sanctioning of a footover bridge project. The delegation also apprised the CEC of their upcoming Sports Fest at EJM College Leh and sought support to make the event a success. H'CEC assured the delegation of council's full support.

# FromPage No: 1

# Thirteen Candidates from J&K qualify UPSC 2025, Many already in Government service

and Peerzada Umer at 818. This year's UPSC results were led nationally by Aditya Srivastava, an engineering graduate from IIT Kanpur, with four women also figuring in the top ten. The successful candidates will now be allocated various services, including the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Police Service (IPS), and Indian Foreign Service (IFS), depending on their rank and preferences. The achievements of the thirteen candidates from Jammu and Kashmir have drawn praise from officials and civil society alike, with many noting that their success offers inspiration to thousands of young aspirants across the Union

# Body of 18-year-old with bullet injury found in Jammu Park, Suicide suspected

shot himself with a pistol belonging to his father, police said. The motive is being ascertained, and police are also probing whether the weapon was licensed or not, they said. increased due to heavy rains in the upper areas through which the river passes.

# Wanted criminal dies in scuffle with police while trying to escape custody in Jammu

"All required legal proceedings have been initiated," he said. A case under relevant sections of law has been registered at Bishnah police station and further investigation is underway, the spokesman



# GDC R S Pura secures Certificate of Merit in JU Debate Competition

## Top News Report

R S PURA, Apr 22: Sarbjee Hira, a talented student from Government Degree College (GDC) R.S. Pura, has been honoured with a Certificate of Merit for his outstanding performance in the 2nd Annual Prof Shailendra Singh Jamwal Memorial Debate Competition-2025 organized by the Department of Student Welfare, University of Jammu.

The prestigious event, held on April 21, 2025 brought together some of the brightest debaters from colleges and university of Jammu across the region.

On the topic "Regulation of Social Media is a threat to Freedom of Expression", the participants engaged in thought-provoking discussions on con-



temporary topics, showcasing their eloquence, critical thinking, and persuasive skills.

Sarbjee's compelling arguments, confident delivery, and in-depth analysis of the debate topic earned him this distinguished recognition. His achievement highlights the academic excellence and competi-

tive spirit nurtured at GDC R.S. Pura.

Principal Prof Dr Preetpal Kour and the faculty of GDC R.S. Pura extended their heartfelt congratulations to Sarbjee, commending his dedication and hard work. "This accomplishment reflects not only Sarbjee's talent but also the college's

commitment to fostering intellectual growth and extracurricular excellence," stated Prof Dr Preetpal Kour.

The University of Jammu praised all participants for their enthusiasm and high standard of debate, emphasizing the importance of such platforms in shaping future leaders and thinkers.

Sarbjee expressed gratitude to his mentors, peers, and the college for their unwavering support.

"This recognition motivates me to strive harder and contribute meaningfully to such intellectual endeavors," he said.

GDC R.S. Pura takes immense pride in Sarjee's achievement and looks forward to more such accomplishments from its students in the future.

# Jackson Dancing Group Jammu presents musical play



nate the art camp, local flavours will be highlighted through folk music, classical dance performances and a Dogri musical opera.

Renowned Kathak dancer Gauri Diwakar will grace the stage with a classical dance performance and J.R Sharma and Poonam Sharma also performed Gitru folk dance "Aa Gorie Aa Shouoa.

The event has garnered support of several prominent personalities from the region. Notably, Ritu Singh, a member of the royal family and R.K Suman, Deputy Director General of 'Incredible India', are key supporters of this initiative.

Adding to the local charm, SHO Rakesh Jamwal of PS Kacchi Chhawni will showcase his musical talent. The programme was proceeding was Bindia Ticku.

Anuradha Rishi, President of the Trust, said: "Our aim is to connect the youth with their roots-through art, through culture. We've managed to change mindsets, bring art to places where no festivals ever happened and spark a new cultural awakening.

was performed by J.R Sharma and Poonam Sharma, Pooja Loach and Harikirt jiji. The performance was appreciated by the audience and gave nonstop clappings.

On the same day a paintings camp will bring together eminent artists from seven States, Artists include Amit Anand, M. Akram Khan, Vijay Anand, Sonam Sikarwar, Sharmila Sharma, Suman Dogreand Rakhi Kumar participated and create paintings while Ritu Singh will coordi-

# CDPO Gandhi Nagar organises Poshan Pakhwada 2025 awareness programme



## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 22: CDPO Gandhi Nagar organised Poshan Pakhwada 2025 awareness programme. Joint Director Poshan J&K, Vinod Behnal was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Event was attended by various beneficiaries of Anganwadi Centres- Pregnant Ladies, Nursing Mothers, children (3-6 years) along with Sanginis, Sahayikas and Supervisors of Poshan project Gandhi Nagar.

Awareness was generated through medium of cultural programme based on 4 themes of Poshan Pakhwada 2025 which are First 1000 days of child, popularization of Beneficiary module of Poshan

Tracker, Community sensitisation of Malnutrition protocol, and addressing childhood obesity.

Joint Director Poshan addressed beneficiaries and field functionaries on successful implementation of goals of Poshan Abhiyan Jan Andolan. CDPO Gandhi Nagar addressed participants about the role of Community mobilization as well as community participation, for successful achievements of goals of Poshan Abhiyan.

State Coordinator Poshan Tracker J&K, Ankush Sharma graced the occasion. He sensitized Anganwadi workers on the theme of Popularization of Beneficiary module of Poshan Tracker.

# World Earth Day observed at JIAR with "Our Power, Our Planet"

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 22: Under a warm spring sky, the Jammu Institute of Ayurveda and Research (JIAR) came alive with youthful energy as students and faculty gathered to honor World Earth Day. With the stirring theme "Our Power, Our Planet," the event unfolded in two vibrant acts: a creative showcase of posters and slogans by Final Prof and 2nd Prof students, followed by a hands in the soil plantation drive across the verdant college campus.

In the morning session, auditoria walls blossomed with color and conviction. Each poster—brimming with swirling greens, blues, and sunlit golds—spoke of hope, resilience, and the promise of renewable energy.

This creative tableau was orchestrated by Dr. Neeru Bharti, Associate Professor of Shalakyta Tantra, whose opening remarks wove together scientific insight and



poetic urgency. "Today, we stand at a crossroads," she told the assembled students. "The choices we make—our power sources, our daily habits—will shape every living being on Earth. Let us choose wisely, choose renewably, choose our shared future." As the sun climbed higher, participants traded pens for saplings. Ladders of hope were planted in neat rows: native fruit trees, medicinal shrubs, and flowering specimens destined to shelter bees and birds. Together, students and staff labored joyfully, turning

soil into promise. Every handful of earth pressed around a young trunk whispered of carbon captured, shade given, and ecosystems rebuilt.

By day's end, the JIAR campus had transformed into a living manifesto of sustainability. Around them, newly rooted saplings pointed heavenward, a testament to collective action and forward thinking resolve. In the words of one enthusiastic student volunteer, "We're not just planting trees—we're planting belief: that each of us holds the power to heal our planet."

# Diva International Foundation organises medical camp

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 22: Diva International Foundation, a National NGO, in collaboration with Jammu and Kashmir Police organised free Mega Multi -Speciality Health Camp under Civic Action Programme at Baspur, R. S. Pura.

The Camp Was Inaugurated by DIG / SSP Jammu in presence of team of Doctors, team of Diva International Foundation, Local Administration and Local Police Department.

More than 400 plus patients took benefit of the camp.

The Camp was mainly supported by Ujala Cygnus JK Medicity Hospital, Sharp Sight Hospital and Directorate of ISM, J&K.

Free distribution of both allopathic and Ayurvedic medicines were provided to the



beneficiaries and basic tests of blood sugar and blood pressure monitoring was done by medical experts.

All doctors, para medics and volunteers were facilitated by SP Security Irshad Ahmed.

Amardeep Singh Sasan CEO and Director of Diva International Foundation and Diva Group (International) thanked Specially Er. Ajay Bhagat for his unconditional support

, local media, local administration, Police Department, Dinesh Sharma (Head Sales and Marketing) Ujala Cygnus JK Medicity Hospital, Deepak and Sh Rahul and Team of Sharp Sight Hospital & Dr. Vandana Sharma District Officer and Medical Superintendent ISM Hospital and participation \$Team Kashmir Barsat & KB Production to make this programme a grand success.

# Godrej leads way in trust, reliability with BIS, ISO certified security Safes

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 22: The Godrej Enterprises Group's Security Solutions Business continues to empower customers with certified, superior security solutions, demonstrating its unwavering dedication to consumer awareness.

As security needs evolve, trust and reliability have become more important than ever. Certified products not only protect consumers but also strengthen confidence in the security solutions they rely on. By adhering to stringent certification standards such as BIS (Bureau of Indian Standards) and ISO, the brand continues to set industry benchmarks, enabling consumers to make informed decisions with assurance.

Pushkar Gokhale, Executive Vice President and Business Head of the Security Solutions Business of Godrej Enterprises Group, emphasized the role of certification in consumer protection, stating, "In today's evolving security landscape, ensuring that consumers receive certified, reliable, and high-quality products is crucial. BIS and ISO certifications serve as key benchmarks, reinforcing our steadfast pursuit of excellence. The Quality Control Order that mandates Safe manufacturers to sell only Certified Safes is a great step towards encourag-



ing only Certified products only (QCO). This regulation empowers jewelers community to access high quality Safes from all suppliers with we leading this initiative. we go beyond compliance, advocating for higher industry standards and raising awareness about the significance of certified security solutions. We truly believe that an informed consumer is an empowered consumer, and our goal is to enable them to make choices that provide both assurance and peace of mind. We have been

instrumental in being thought leaders by actively educating Jewellers Pan India about the importance of buying only Certified Safes through press conferences in Jewellery hubs like Jaipur, Surat, Lucknow, Kolhapur and more. Our efforts have been extended beyond compliance—we continue to actively educate Jewellers about the value of certified products, enabling them to make informed decisions.

The Security Solutions Business of Godrej Enterprises

Group has consistently led industry advancements, setting new benchmarks for product reliability. Its newly launched Defender Aurum Pro Royal – India's first Class E BIS-certified Safe and other security solutions serve a wide range of users, from Jewellers, BFSI and institutional sectors to households alike, ensuring that both businesses and individuals benefit from trusted security solutions. This growing adoption of certified products underscores the increasing demand for security solutions that offer not just protection but also confidence and peace of mind.

With the rapid expansion of smart home technology, security solutions are becoming an integral part of modern living. Currently, smart home penetration stands at approximately 10 percent, with projections indicating growth to 20–25 percent by 2030. This upward trend highlights the growing need for certified security solutions that align with evolving consumer expectations.

By actively engaging with industry stakeholders and maintaining global quality standards, the Security Solutions Business of Godrej Enterprises Group remains dedicated to reinforcing consumer trust through transparency, innovation, and an unwavering focus on reliability.

# Five days course on "Use of Space application" commence at SKPA Udhampur



## Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Apr 22: 05 days course on "Use of Space application in policing including Drone Technology, Interception and Investigation" commence today at SKPA. Fifteen officers from different wings/Units of J&K Police are participating in the training program. This comprehensive course aims to equip law enforcement professionals with the knowledge and skills needed to leverage space applications for enhanced policing strategies.

The utilization of drone technology will be a key focal point, providing participants with demonstration in drone operations for surveillance, reconnaissance, and technical response.

On this occasion an inaugural function was organized. Ramnish Gupta, SSP, Dy. Director (Admn) was the chief guest. Gupta welcomed all the participants on behalf of Director SKPA.

In his inaugural address, Gupta said that the use of space applications in policing offers an un-presidential level of surveillance and communication

with access to satellite imaginary and remote sensing technologies which allows us to make informed decision and coordinate our response efforts more effectively. He also said that the deployment of drone technology in policing will definitely revolutionized our ability together conduct search and rescue operations and monitor large crowds as well events.

The course is being coordinated by Inspector Viahah Manhas assisted by SI Dhian Singh, member faculty of SKPA.



# IPL 2025: Misfiring Sunrisers Hyderabad face resurgent Mumbai Indians

With only two wins in seven outings, SRH are in a desperate situation

HYDERABAD, Apr 22 (Agencies): The misfiring Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) will hope for a happy homecoming when they take on a resurrected Mumbai Indians (MI) here on Wednesday, eyeing a much-needed victory to revive their campaign in the 2025 Indian Premier League (IPL).

With only two wins in seven outings, SRH are in a desperate situation. Their power-packed batting has let them down more often than not while their bowlers are not making any strong impression either.

That SRH are a one-dimensional side has been proven by the manner in which it has struggled on slow and turning pitches. The Pat Cummins-led outfit has lost two home matches too.

Their four-wicket defeat to MI in Mumbai on a tricky Wankhede pitch with grip and turn was the most recent instance of their frailties being exposed in challenging conditions.

SRH batters thrive on flat wickets which produce high-scoring contests and having a favourable surface against MI would give them the best chance to find some momentum.

Abhishek Sharma and Travis Head will have their task cut out against MI given SRH's chances of winning hinge, to a large extent, on the left-handed opening pair. Their success in the



powerplay defines the team's fortunes in a contest.

Abhishek smacked a 55-ball 141 in his last outing here against Punjab Kings to record the highest individual total for any batter in this IPL.

There will be, however, some concerns around Head who hasn't gone all guns blazing like he usually does and SRH will want their Australian star to be at the top of his game.

A defeat would put SRH in a tough situation. They will also have to be wary of their head-to-head record against MI. The team has won 10 out of their 24 matches while losing 14.

For MI, it is a perfect opportunity to test their resurgence in an away game before they return home to face Lucknow Super Giants in Mumbai on Sunday.

Mumbai Indians have put their disappointing start to the IPL behind with three consecutive

wins.

The five-time champions are coming off a massive nine-wicket hammering of Chennai Super Kings (CSK) on a batting-friendly wicket on which they went over the line chasing a target near 180 with more than four overs to spare.

Rohit Sharma's sensational 76 not out and Suryakumar Yadav's 68 not out with all his trademark shots coming out fluently signalled the return to form of MI's two batting pillars.

Tilak Varma did not get to bat against CSK but the left-hander has been in prime form, while Naman Dhir has shown signs of hitting his strides as a finisher alongside skipper Hardik Pandya.

Jasprit Bumrah hasn't been at his menacing best when it comes to taking wickets but the ace India bowler has begun nailing his line and lengths perfectly.

This could be a warning sign for the SRH batters given MI tend to use Bumrah more strategically, with Trent Boult and Deepak Chahar sharing the new ball.

The nature of the surface could have a bearing on the outcome with SRH's two wins here coming on flat decks ensuring run-fests in their contests against Rajasthan Royals and Punjab Kings earlier.

Teams (from):

Sunrisers Hyderabad: Pat Cummins ©, Ishan Kishan (wk), Atharva Taide, Abhinav Manohar, Aniket Verma, Sachin Baby, Smaran Ravichandran, Heinrich Klaasen (wk), Travis Head, Harshal Patel, Kamindu Mendis, Wiaan Mulder, Abhishek Sharma, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Mohammed Shami, Rahul Chahar, Simarjeet Singh, Zee-shan Ansari, Jaydev Unadkat, Eshan Malinga.

Mumbai Indians: Hardik Pandya ©, Rohit Sharma, Suryakumar Yadav, Robin Minz, Ryan Rickelton (wk), Shrijith Krishnan (wk), Bevon Jacobs, Tilak Varma, Naman Dhir, Will Jacks, Mitchell Santner, Raj Angad Bawa, Vignesh Puthur, Corbin Bosch, Trent Boult, Karn Sharma, Deepak Chahar, Ashwani Kumar, Reece Topley, VS Pameetsa, Arjun Tendulkar, Mujeeb Ur Rahman, Jasprit Bumrah.

Match starts at 7:30pm IST.

# “We didn’t score enough runs”: KKR mentor Dwayne Bravo on their defeat against GT



KOLKATA, Apr 22 (Agencies): Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) mentor Dwayne Bravo praised his bowlers for restricting Gujarat Titans (GT) under 200 runs and giving them a chance to win in the ongoing Indian Premier League (IPL).

He also acknowledged that they didn't get the start they wanted in the power play and ultimately fell short.

“Obviously, we didn't score enough runs. So I think, Jason, I think the bowlers, first of all, did a fantastic job restricting them to under 200. Shubman, Gill, and Sai bat very well. But credit to our bowling group, they really bring it back

and give us a chance at the halfway stage. I think we were the happier team. Unfortunately, we didn't get the start we wanted in the power play. And then, yeah, they slow us down short of the middle. And obviously, we faulted in the end,” Bravo said in the post-match press conference.

Bravo explained their strategy of using a left-right combination in their batting order to counter opposition spinners.

“We tried to create a left-right combination. I think we are one of those teams that are blessed to have quality left-handers and right-handers in our top order. And so you try to use

that to the best of your ability, especially when you have an opposition, have quality spinners, left-handed or spin and leg spin,” he added.

Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) continued to make a mess out of their title defence as their batters once again failed to live up to their hype against a consistent Gujarat Titans (GT), who secured a 39-run win over the defending champions at Eden Gardens in Kolkata.

After being put to bat first, GT posted 198/3 thanks to superb half-centuries from skipper Shubman Gill (90), Sai Sudharsan (52) and some fiery finishing from Jos Buttler (41”).

In reply, KKR could not put up much of a fight, except their skipper Ajinkya Rahane (50), as they were restricted to 159/8 thanks to superb spells by Prasidh Krishna (2/25) and Rashid Khan (2/25).

KKR have slipped to the seventh spot with three wins and their fifth loss, while GT maintain their supremacy at the top with six wins and two losses, giving them 12 points.

# Jasprit Bumrah and Smriti Mandhana have been named Wisden’s Leading Cricketers in the World

NEW DELHI, Apr 22 (Agencies): In the 2024 edition of the Wisden Cricketers' Almanack, which was released on Tuesday, Jasprit Bumrah, India's fast bowler who plays across all formats, is named the Leading Men's Cricketer in the World, as per a report from ESPNcricinfo.

Bumrah capped his performances in 2024 by becoming the first Test bowler in history to claim 200 wickets at an average of less than 20.

Bumrah's incredible performance in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy in Australia, where he nearly single-handedly led India's attack with 32 wickets at an average of 13.06.

In 2024, he took 86 wickets in 21 matches at an average of 13, and he also bowled India to victory in the T20 World Cup 2024, which was held in the Caribbean in June. Bumrah had a lower back injury, which



ruled him out of India's famous run to Champions Trophy victory.

He has not played any cricket for India since then, he made his return to competitive cricket in the ongoing Indian Premier League (IPL). Bumrah has not suffered a back injury for the first time, as he had surgery for it in March 2023.

India opener batter Smriti Mandhana completed an Indian double by being named Wisden's Leading Women's Cricketer in the World. In 2024, Mandhana scored 1659 runs in all formats, setting a new record for the most runs by a woman in a calendar year of international

cricket.

She also scored four ODI hundreds, which was another milestone. In a ten-wicket victory against South Africa in June, she capped her achievements with a second Test century, 149.

West Indies batter Nicholas Pooran was named as the Leading T20 Player in the World. In 2024, Pooran has made 464 runs in 21 matches at an average of 25.77 and a strike rate of 142.33.

Pooran is currently also the second-highest run scorer in the ongoing IPL with 368 runs in eight matches, with an average of over 50.

# Rafael Nadal, Armand Duplantis, Simone Biles emerge as winners at Laureus World Sports Awards 2025

MADRID, Apr 22 (Agencies): Former Tennis player Rafael Nadal, Paris Olympics 2024 champions Armand Duplantis, Simone Biles, and Rebeca Andrade were some of the biggest winners at the 2025 Laureus World Sports Awards, as per the Olympics.com.

The ceremony marked the 25th edition of the prestigious event honored the biggest sports stars and was held in the Spanish capital.

Transcending achievements over the Olympic year, 11-time world surfing champion Kelly Slater received the Laureus Lifetime Achievement award while tennis legend Rafael Nadal took home the Laureus Sporting Icon Award to a standing ovation from a glittering hall filled with sports royalty.

There was plenty of glitz on the red carpet as sports superstars arrived decked out in their finest for the most glamorous night in the world of sport. Active sports champions like freestyle skiing ace Eileen Gu and football World Cup winner Paulo Dybala rubbed shoulders with sports legends like Nadia Comaneci and Chris Hoy, while alpine skiing star Lindsey Vonn returned as the ceremony host for the second time in four years.

The night began with last year's World Sportsman of the Year, Novak Djokovic, presenting the award to three-time nominee in the same category, Swedish pole vaulter Armand 'Mondo' Duplantis. The athletics star became the first back-to-back men's pole vault champion at the Olympic Games in more than half a century when he defended his Tokyo 2020 title at Paris 2024, while also break-

ing the world record for the ninth time.

“I'm proud of myself for putting myself in the position and having the dedication, and grinding through it to be here amongst the greatest athletes in the entire world. It's a once-in-a-lifetime type of award to win, honestly, so I'm not going to take it for granted,” Duplantis said after receiving his statuette as quoted by the Olympics.com.

Artistic gymnasts Simone Biles and Rebeca Andrade were honoured as World Sportswoman of the Year and World Comeback of the Year, respectively. The USA and Brazilian athletes shared the all-around, floor exercise and vault podiums at Paris 2024 and were full of praise for each other's achievements.

“Individual sports can be isolating, but Paris showed that camaraderie can exist between competitors, and I was so proud to compete alongside last year's winner of this Award, Simone Biles. Simone and I are the only two gymnasts to win a Laureus Award and I hope our stories can inspire anyone who has experienced injuries and setbacks to keep fighting through the many obstacles placed in front of them on the long road to recovery,” Andrade said of her competitor, who was named Comeback of the Year in 2024.

Great Britain's Tom Pidcock took home the World Action Sportsperson of the Year award after his memorable mountain bike victory at Paris 2024, which included fighting back from a punctured tyre, to defend his Tokyo 2020 gold medal.

“Winning the Laureus World Action Sportsperson of the Year is a spe-

cial moment. No matter what happens for the rest of my career, 2024 will always stand as a highlight. Adversity can sometimes make victory even sweeter. It's fair to say the Olympic final did not go to plan when I picked up a puncture. That was the moment when all my mental and physical training kicked in. I know that athletes' stories can inspire and uplift. I have experienced that on a personal level, and I share in Laureus' mission to use sport as a vehicle for good. Together, we can change the world,” Pidcock said in a video message.

Jiang Yuyan of the People's Republic of China, also known as the 'Flying Fish', was named the Sportsperson of the Year with a Disability. The 19-year-old Para swimmer left Paris 2024 as the most decorated athlete of the Paralympic Games with seven gold medals from seven events - a repeat of the feat that USA's legendary swimmer Mark Spitz achieved at the Munich 1972 Olympics. Footballers also shone bright on the glittering evening in Madrid's Palacio de Cibeles.

Real Madrid were named Laureus World Team of the Year while Spain's Euro 2024 hero, 17-year-old Lamine Yamal, was recognised as the World Breakthrough of the Year.

The Laureus Sport for Good Award went to Kick4Life, a charity foundation that uses football to engage children and teens in Lesotho and educate them about HIV infection.

Kelly Slater, widely considered the greatest surfer of all time, received the Laureus Lifetime Achievement award, joining the ranks of sports greats such as Pele, Billie Jean King,

Niki Lauda, and Sergey Bubka, among others.

“As a little kid, I wasn't sure if people in my area, where I was from in Florida, could win a world title or whatever, and now I look back, and in our sport, we have 22 world titles from my state. You have to believe you can achieve something in order for it to happen,” Slater said at the 2025 Laureus World Sports Awards.

The USA surfer was first nominated for a Laureus award in 2006 as the Action Sportsperson of the Year and won in this category in 2007, 2009, 2011, and 2012.

“You have a committee of athletes voting on the best athletes. That's really the biggest honour. There's a lot of popular votes in the world that are based on fan following and that kind of thing, but this is based on merit and objective order that you've done at some point in your career. To be judged by your peers is the highest honour, and this is really the award that is doing that,” Slater said about the significance of the recognition. A standing ovation for one of Spain's sporting greats, Rafael Nadal, capped off the glittering night.

The two-time Olympic tennis champion and 22-time singles Grand Slam winner became the second-ever recipient of the Sporting Icon Award. Italian motorcycling legend Valentino Rossi won the inaugural award in 2022.

Nadal has collected five Laureus statuettes over his career before announcing his retirement in October 2024. The Spaniard won his first Laureus award, as World Breakthrough of the Year, in 2006 and in 2024 his foundation was honoured with the Laureus Sport for Good Award.

“My retirement from competitive tennis made 2024 an emotional year for me where there were some magical moments like the one in Paris carrying the Olympic torch. Tennis and sports in general has given me so much; my drive has always been to compete and try my best every time I stepped on court,” Nadal said.

“A Sporting Icon? I think that is for other people to decide. But I hope that my career has inspired sports fans beyond tennis. I gave it everything I had. As athletes, we have a unique opportunity to use our influence and inspiration to make a positive impact on the world and as I move into my next chapter, I'm going to hold on to the ideals that I share with Laureus and work with them to achieve the most important thing an athlete can do - changing the world through sport,” he added.

The full list of winners at the 2025 Laureus World Sports Award.

Laureus World Sportsman of the Year Award: Mondo Duplantis.

Laureus World Sportswoman of the Year Award: Simone Biles.

Laureus World Team of the Year Award: Real Madrid.

Laureus World Breakthrough of the Year Award: Lamine Yamal.

Laureus World Comeback of the Year Award: Rebeca Andrade.

Laureus World Sportsperson of the Year with a Disability Award: Jiang Yuyan.

Laureus World Action Sportsperson of the Year Award: Tom Pidcock.

Laureus Sport for Good Award: Kick4Life.

Laureus Sporting Icon Award: Rafael Nadal.

Laureus Lifetime Achievement Award: Kelly Slater.

# Kerala stuns Oman with four-wickets win in tour opener

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, Apr 22 (Agencies): Kerala's senior men's team made a sensational start to their Oman tour, registering a thrilling four-wicket victory against Oman Chairman's XI in the first match, as per a release from Kerala Cricket Association.

In a high-scoring encounter, Kerala chased down a massive target of 327 with five balls to spare, with stellar performances from Rohan Kunnummal, Salman Nizar, and Shaun Roger.

Batting first, Oman Chairman's XI posted an imposing total of 326 in 50 overs. Openers Jatinder Singh and Aamir Kaleem laid a solid foundation with a 137-run partnership.

Jatinder dazzled with a brilliant 150 off 136 balls, while Aamir chipped in with 73 off 68 deliveries.

However, once Aamir was dismissed, Kerala bowlers fought back, restricting scoring and dismissing the rest of the batting order effectively.

Kerala's MD Nidheesh and Eden Apple Tom were the stars with the ball,

picking up four wickets each, helping contain Oman's total despite the strong start.

In reply, Kerala's chase got off to a decent start with Rohan Kunnummal and Ahmad Imran opening the innings. Though both Ahmad Imran and Mohammed Azharuddeen fell in the same over, Rohan and Salman Nizar steadied the innings with a crucial 146-run third-wicket stand.

Rohan led from the front with a composed century, scoring 122 off 109 balls, which included 12 fours and 4 sixes.

Salman Nizar added an impactful 87 runs. After Rohan's dismissal, Shaun Roger took charge with a fluent 56 off 48 balls. Though Kerala lost a few quick wickets towards the end, Akshay Manohar and Sharafuddeen held their nerve to guide the team to a memorable win.

For Oman, Hussain Ali Shah was the pick of the bowlers, taking four wickets. Kerala's next match in the Oman tour is scheduled for April 23.



# Dimple sits in solidarity with J&K casual labourers, urges job regularisation



## Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 22: In a scene both stirring and solemn, Sunil Dimple, President of Mission Statehood Jammu Kashmir, joined thousands of daily wagers beneath the ancient trees of Harisingh Ji Park.

Together with the All Jammu Kashmir Casual Labourers United Front Maha Panchayat, he sat in dharna—an unbroken circle of hope—calling on the powers that be to honour the toil of every daily-rated worker.

“Today, we are not merely protesting,” Dimple told the gathered sea of faces. “We are weaving a future where every labourer stands secure, where every promise made to our youth is etched in law.”

Amid chants demanding dignity and fair wages, Dimple’s voice rang out with conviction. He appealed directly to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah to fulfil

their commitments to J&K’s youth, implement the Minimum Wages Act in full, and regularize categories ranging from home guards and 10+2 contractual lecturers to anganwadi workers, SPOs, vocational trainers, and seasonal teachers.

He did not spare the local administration either.

Addressing the alliance NC government’s Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, Dimple pressed for immediate regularisation of daily wagers, an uplift of salaries from the current Rs. 45,000 benchmark to match Ladakh UT’s standards, and the swift advertisement of all JKSSB vacancies.

“For ten years, the BJP has looked on as our young people struggled—no regularisations, no justice after the abrogation of Article 370,” he charged. “It is time to restore not only jobs, but the very statehood of Jammu & Kashmir.”

Backing him in solidarity were prominent leaders of the front: Babu Malik, Devinder Singh, Kulwant Singh Samyal, Kamla Sharma, Rajni Jamwal, Tanvir Hussain, Yashpal Sharma, and numerous trade union heads, each of whom honored Dimple for standing shoulder to shoulder with the labourers.

As the spring breeze carried their cries for justice, Dimple warned that the struggle would persist until the 42 percent unemployment rate—highest in India—was reversed, daily wagers found security, and the promise of Article 370 and full statehood once again breathed life into the Valley.

With poetry in his cadence and passion in his heart, Sunil Dimple—and the thousands at Harisingh Park—sent forth a clear message: the labourers of Jammu & Kashmir will no longer be shadows at the margins of power, but architects of their collective destiny.

# Renowned Sufi singer Kanwar Grewal mesmerizes audience at Aryans 19th Roshaan

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 22: World renowned Sufi Singer Kanwar Grewal enthralled the audience during 19th Annual cultural extravaganza “Roshaan” at Aryans Group of Colleges, Rajpura, near Chandigarh. Shashi Prabha, (IPS) DGP (Railways), Punjab Police was the Chief Guest of the occasion. Dr. Anshu Kataria, Chairman, Aryans Group, presided over this event.

On the occasion, DSP Ghanaur, Neha Aggarwal; Former Justice, Sanjay Sachdeva, Additional Session Judge; Registrar, Punjab State Board of Technical Education (PSBTE), Chandigarh, Sanjeev Goyal; Ex Deputy Director DPI Colleges, S. Gurdarshan Singh; Chief Engineer, BSNL, Anil Goyal; Senior Engineer, PWD, Manpreet Dua, Director General, Aryans Group, Dr Parveen Kataria were special guests.



Thousands of students, Alumni of Aryans Group attended this mega cultural function. The event was hosted by Anchor Preetraman Kaur (Artist).

The DGP Railways Punjab expressed her delight upon witnessing the environment at Aryans Group, noting that the institution’s motto to excel in academics and innovation through “Edutainment” (education with entertainment) is commendable.

She emphasized the importance of such ini-

tiatives for the holistic development of students. During her first visit to the campus, she was pleased to see the lush green, pollution-free surroundings of the Aryans Group.

Dr. Anshu Kataria, while addressing the students, emphasized, “You should make your parents happy or make them proud not after their death, but while they are alive.”

Aryans consistently conveys this message to its students, which is reflected in its events being named in honor

of parents. Every year Aryans Group hosts two cultural events where “Roshaan” is the Cultural Extravaganza dedicated to students Fathers & “Rajni” is a celebration for fresher’s welcome dedicated to mothers of our students. This year, Roshaan was organized after the demise of Prof Roshan Lal Kataria, Founder, Aryans Group and a tribute was also paid.

Kanwar Grewal who is known for his soulful voice performed on “Mast”, “Ticketan”, “Fakira”, “Zamaane”,

“Yaar Madina”, “Vaaz”, “Challa”, “Akhaan”, “Jogi” etc. Punjabi Actress Nisha Bano also performed on the occasion who was here for her upcoming song “Punjab Kaur” promotion. Dogri Singer Varsha Jamwal also mesmerized the audience on various song tracks. Punjabi Singer Sukhjinder Yamla also performed and made the audience to tap their feet.

It is to be mentioned that established in 2007, Aryans Group is running 8 different colleges including Engineering, Law, Management, Agriculture, Nursing, Pharmacy, Education, Physiotherapy etc. The group is spread over 20-acre lush green land on Chandigarh-Patiala Highway, near Chandigarh and catering over 4000 students from different parts of the country. The organization is committed to provide high quality education to its students.

# J&K Govt appoints ADCs as District officers to enforce workplace sexual harassment Law

## Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Apr 22: In a move to strengthen the implementation of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir has nominated Additional Deputy Com-

missioners (ADCs) as District Officers in their respective districts.

As per Government Order No. 505-JK(GAD) of 2025, issued by the General Administration Department (GAD) of the Civil Secretariat, J&K, the ADCs will now exercise powers and discharge functions outlined under Section 5 of Chapter III of the Act.

The decision is part of the government’s broader commitment to ensure safer work environments for women across the Union Territory.

The order, signed by M Raju , Commissioner/Secretary to the Government, emphasizes the importance of robust district-level enforcement to handle complaints and oversee the redressal mechanisms mandated by the Act.

This nomination empowers the ADCs to play a pivotal role in preventing and addressing cases of workplace sexual harassment, ensuring that the provisions of the Act are effectively implemented at the grassroots level.

The move is expected to improve awareness, accountability, and prompt action in cases of harassment at workplaces throughout J&K.

# Delegation of Dental Surgeons calls on CEC Leh



## Top News Report

LEH, Apr 22: Chairman/CEC, LAHDC Leh, Adv. Tashi Gyalson was called on by Dr. Fayaz Ahmad, Dr.Nurzin Angmo along with members of the All Ladakh Dental Surgeon Association (ALDSA), in the presence of Nominated Councillor Dr. Yangchan Dolma, who submitted a representation highlighting key issues concerning dental health services in Ladakh.

The delegation placed demands for the creation of Dental Surgeon posts across all health institutions including DHs, SDHs, CHCs, PHCs, and

H&WCs; creation of District Dental Health Officer posts; adjustment of Dental Surgeons against vacant Medical Officer posts; appointment of senior Dental Surgeons as in-charge BMOs; rectification of honorarium discrepancies for RBSK and contractual Dental Surgeons; inclusion under the difficult area incentive scheme; and appointment of more Dental Surgeons under the RBSK program.

The Chairman/CEC expressed his support and assured that a meeting with all concerned authorities will be convened to discuss and resolve the issues.

# CRC Jammu (Samba) marks Earth Day 2025 with Special Children



## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 22: In celebration of Earth Day 2025, the Composite Regional Centre (CRC) Jammu (Samba)-PDUNIPPD, New Delhi under DEPWD, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MOSJE), Govt. of India, organized a heartwarming and environmentally conscious event on April 22, 2025, under the global theme “Our Power, Our Planet.”

The event brought together approximately 50 participants, including Children with Special Needs (CWSN) and their parents, in a shared effort to raise awareness about environmental protection and sustainability.

The event began with

the inaugural address by Dr. Rohnika Sharma, Director, CRC Jammu (Samba). She emphasized the importance of instilling environmental values in the younger generation and empowering individuals of all abilities to take part in eco-friendly initiatives.

The Children with Special Needs (CWSN) showcased their creativity and commitment to the planet by preparing and displaying thought-provoking posters related to Earth and environmental conservation.

Their artwork served as a strong message of hope and responsibility towards Mother Earth.

One of the key highlights of the celebration was a plantation drive within the premises of

CRC Jammu (Samba), where the Children with Special Needs (CWSN), accompanied by the CRC staff, planted saplings to contribute to a greener tomorrow.

This symbolic gesture reflected the core message of the Earth Day 2025 theme, underlining the power of collective action.

The programme concluded on a joyful note with refreshments served to all the children, providing them an opportunity to bond and celebrate their efforts.

CRC Jammu (Samba) continues to foster inclusion, empowerment, and environmental consciousness through such initiatives, reaffirming its commitment to holistic development and sustainability.

# Shiv Sena demands to start special rail service between Jammu-Banihal

## Complete the work of Mughal Road all-weather on war footing

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 22: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu-Kashmir unit has demanded special relief package from the Modi government at the center for the devastation caused by the natural disaster in Ramban district of Jammu division and to start special train service between Jammu railway station and Banihal and develop Mughal Road as an all-weather road as an alternative.

In a press conference held today at the party’s state center office, state chief Manish Sahni expressed deep sorrow over the devastation caused by cloudburst and floods with heavy debris from the moun-



tains in Ramban district on Jammu-Srinagar highway and demanded a special relief package from the central government. Along with this, to provide immediate relief to thousands of passengers stranded on both sides due to the blockage of the national highway, demanded to start special train service from Jammu to Banihal and further journey.

Sahni said that the work of rail track between Jammu and Kashmir has been completed.

The dates of starting of Vande Bharat trains are being extended. In this time of disaster, the Railway Department should start special trains to provide relief to tourists and local citizens, especially patients going out of Kashmir Valley to

other parts of the country for treatment and passengers and students going across the country for business.

He said that the Holy Shri Amarnath Yatra is also going to start from July 3. If such a situation arises again, then the common people and pilgrims may have to face huge problems.

To avoid this, the work of preparing the Mughal Road as an all-weather route along with starting the railway route immediately as an alternative to the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway should be completed on a war footing. Sahni has also demanded to tighten the noose on the airlines companies which are looking at this time of disaster.

# GCW Bhagwati Nagar celebrates Earth Day 2025

## Top News Report

JAMMU, Apr 22: Government College for Women (GCW) Bhagwati Nagar, celebrated Earth Day 2025 with great enthusiasm and environmental commitment under this year’s global theme — “Our Power, Our Planet.”

Eco club “Tawishi” of GCW Bhagwati Nagar in collaboration with NSS Unit of the college celebrated Earth Day 2025 under the patronage of Principal of the college, Dr Naveen Anand by organising eco-conscious activities, including a Poster-cum-Slogan writing and a Plantation Drive, aimed at spreading awareness about the importance of individual and collective action in protecting the planet.

Students of BA and BCom Semester I/II enthusiastically participated in the poster-cum-slogan writing competition,

showcasing their creativity and environmental consciousness.

The vibrant artworks and thought-provoking slogans highlighted pressing issues such as climate change, deforestation, pollution, and the urgent need for green energy solutions.

A plantation drive was also organized within the college campus. Principal, Faculty members and students joined hands in planting saplings of indigenous and fruiting species, reaffirming their commitment to a greener tomorrow.

Principal, Dr Naveen Anand emphasized the need for sustainable practices and the role of youth in championing environmental causes.

He stated that “The theme ‘Our Power, Our Planet’ is a reminder that each one of us holds the power to make meaningful changes.

